

Opening New Doors



Farfax County
Park Authority

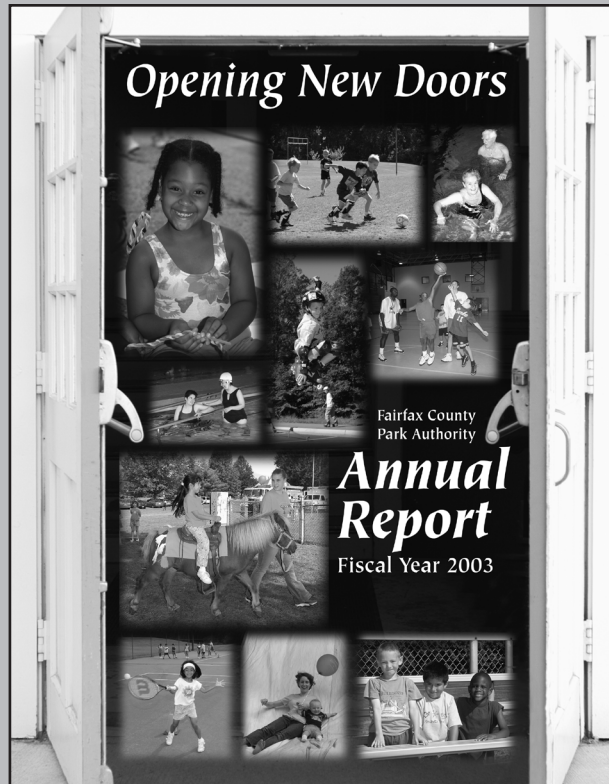
Annual Report

Fiscal year 2003



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Our cover image speaks to this year's theme "*Opening New Doors*." The Park Authority is challenged to meet the needs of a changing community. Our photo essay depicts the breadth and width of the individuals we serve; youngsters, senior citizens, a culturally diverse population, individuals with disabilities, and kids from a variety of backgrounds, economic circumstances and neighborhoods.

The Park Authority is working hard to meet these newly emerging challenges and those efforts are outlined in this report. Join us as we explore the accomplishments and the work that lies ahead.

Photographs by Don Sweeney

Opening New Doors

Mission Statement:

To set aside public spaces for and assist citizens in the protection and enhancement of environmental values, diversity of natural habitats and cultural heritage to guarantee that these resources will be available to both present and future generations. To create and sustain quality facilities and services which offer citizens opportunities for recreation, improvement of their physical and mental well being, and enhancement of their quality of life.

Vision:

The Fairfax County Park Authority strives to inspire and sustain a passion for parks and leisure experiences that enhances our community's quality of life.

Values:

These values describe the essence of our organization:

Enhancing Stewardship

We are stewards for a wonderfully rich community trust of natural and cultural resources. We will provide leadership to expand awareness, appreciation and protection of this heritage.

Fostering Diversity

We embrace the diversity of our community and seek to provide every resident with a wide variety of park experiences and recreational opportunities.

Developing Partnerships

We believe seeking and maintaining active partnerships with neighborhood and community organizations and individuals are essential to becoming a vital and treasured component of the communities we serve.

Providing Quality and Value

We are committed to providing high quality facilities and services that offer superior value and prompt efficient service to our customers and the community.

Communicating Effectively

We strive for productive two-way communication with residents and our staff to allow all to participate fully in creating quality parks and services.

Valuing Our Workforce

We believe our paid and volunteer staff is the key ingredient to our success and commit to creating a participative, team-oriented organization including career development opportunities and meaningful recognition.

Demonstrating Fiscal Responsibility

We are committed to building and preserving a park system that meets the community's needs in a cost effective, fiscally responsible manner.

The Park Authority : An Integral Part of the Community:

Establishment of the Fairfax County Park Authority in 1950 marked the formal beginning of the County's park system. Over the past 54 years, this system has evolved into a diversified mosaic of open space and recreational amenities ranging from neighborhood parks to extensively developed recreational centers and regional parks, and vast tracts of undeveloped land conserved for future generations.

Fairfax County is one of the most dynamic jurisdictions in the region with a population that crested the one million mark during the past fiscal year — nearly seven years earlier than many local planners anticipated. In its early history, Fairfax County was a crossroads for Native American hunting paths and the armies of the North and South and served as a significant agricultural resource for the nation's capital. After World II, its role as an agricultural producer declined and later virtually disappeared as the County was transformed into a suburban bedroom community.

Fairfax County has 407-square-miles within its borders. The County is comprised of 260,480-acres. More than 50% of the land is utilized for residential purposes. About nine percent of the land is set aside for parks, some for roads and water, and the majority of remaining open space is estimated at approximately 10% of the total County acreage. Most of this land is located in the western end of the County with some residual spaces in the southern end as well.

The Park Authority is governed by a volunteer, 12-member board which sets policy and establishes priorities for the park system's management and development. Appointed at-large by the Board of Supervisors, nine of the board members traditionally represent the various supervisory districts of Fairfax County, and three are members-at-large.

The award-winning system, recipient of the nationally-acclaimed Gold Medal Award in 2002, serves as the primary County mechanism for the preservation of environmentally sensitive land and water resources and areas of historic



More than one million people call Fairfax County home. The Park Authority works hard to provide green space for people to enjoy. Green Spring Gardens Park, as seen in this aerial photograph, is a natural oasis and horticultural treasure.

significance. It also provides facilities and services that offer citizens opportunities for recreation at 388 parks on over 22,547-acres of land. Fairfax County has long been recognized for the quality and diversity of its parks and recreation system.

The Fairfax County Park Authority, enabled by the Virginia General Assembly with the passage of the "Park Authorities Act," which permits counties to establish individual park authorities, had modest beginnings. There were no funds for land acquisition or

park development at its inception. In 1955, the Authority owned nine parks on 92 acres of land. Through the support of the Board of Supervisors and the foresight of County residents, eight park bond referenda were approved between 1959 and 2002, providing \$308 million in funds. This unprecedented support has allowed the Park Authority to become one of the largest landholders in Fairfax County.

Park facilities currently include eight RECenters, an indoor ice rink, five nature centers, an outdoor water park, three lakes and marinas, an outdoor pool, a working farm, trails, historic sites and buildings, athletic fields, golf courses, miniature golf courses, a horticulture center, garden plots, stream valley lands, meadows, forests, equestrian facilities, basketball and tennis courts, playgrounds, six off-leash dog exercise areas and picnic grounds.

Facilities either under construction, nearing completion or in the planning and design phase include: the Cub Run RECenter, an 18-hole championship golf course at Laurel Hill, a skate park at Wakefield Park, a fully-accessible playground at CLEMYJONTRI Park and the Cross County Trail, approximately 33-miles from start to finish, providing a north-south spine across the community and slated for completion in 2005. The Park Authority has completed the renovation or construction of 77 playgrounds in the past five years and is midway through a ten-year plan for renovation and improvement of dozens of tennis and multi-use courts. Retrofitting for compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act is also underway at numerous sites.



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Linda Q. Smyth.....	Providence District

Fairfax County Park Authority Board

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Chairman's Message



Chairman Winnie Shapiro

On behalf of the Fairfax County Park Authority Board, I take great pride in presenting "Opening New Doors," the Fiscal Year 2003 Annual Report for the Park Authority.

This report captures the events and accomplishments that we have encountered in the past 12 months and provides insight into those areas that we intend to focus on in the near term and down the line as well. This report speaks to the countless park users, park advocates, government, business and community leaders, environmentalists, the athletic community, planners and residents of Fairfax County who love their parks.

Opening new doors is a common state of affairs at the Park Authority. We are currently reaching out to diverse communities in all parts of Fairfax County. Advertisements, brochures and recruitment materials for employees are multi-lingual. New signage in many parks is following suit. We are currently providing our staff with diversity training in order to sensitize them to the different ways that many cultures recreate and use their parks. Our employees must understand the variety of needs and challenges encountered by those who do not speak English.

Our commitment to the Americans with Disabilities Act remains strong, and we offer a series of programs that accommodate those with disabilities. Adapted aquatics, adapted soccer and a playground at CLEMYJONTRI Park, where those with and without disabilities can play side by side, are just a few of the initiatives underway.

We are reaching out to varied partners to assist us in the development of new facilities. Laurel Hill is a model for successful public-private ventures that ultimately benefit the citizens. More aggressively than ever, we will be seeking opportunities that maximize our resources and in many cases include others willing to adopt an athletic field or help in its creation, planning or improvement.

Fairfax County remains a great place for parks and recreational pursuits. We now care for over 22,547-acres, a number that continues to increase through the purchase of green space, the dedication of land by developers, the transfer of excess public lands from the Board of Supervisors and other government entities, and the donation of parkland and historic resources by individual patrons of the parks. The acreage figure sounds vast and in some respects it is. Our newly acquired properties at Laurel Hill are the equivalent size of three Central Parks. Our total acreage equals over nine percent of the land mass in Fairfax County. Our challenge is to identify the means by which we conserve this property and actively protect it for the future.

I conclude by asking you to join the Park Authority Board in its ongoing efforts to strike a balance between the preservation of historic, cultural and natural resources, and the provision of the amenities and programs which make up our recreational offerings. Think about the many ways you can make a difference. We require the services of thousands of volunteers each year in order to make our parks work. Consider the many opportunities. Think about the importance of supporting our Foundation and the Open Space Preservation Fund. Educate yourself about the issues, including our 2004 Park Bond, and lend us your support. Step over the threshold, open those new doors wide and come inside!

Warmest regards,

Winnie Shapiro

Fiscal Year 2003 Highlights

July 2002



Middleton Barn stands again at Frying Pan Park in Herndon. This early twentieth century structure, donated by Harry Middleton, is one of very few barns with open truss and beam construction.



The waterwheel and flume restoration were completed and rededicated. Colvin Run Mill is on the National Register of Historic Places and has also been recognized as an example of modern engineering from the past.

July brought the announcement that Park Authority **Director Paul Baldino** would retire after four and a half years with the agency and 29 years with Fairfax County Government. It was a time for **land acquisition** with the purchase of an 18-acre parcel, located in the Springfield District, for \$275,000. This land adjoins the 58-acre **VDOT-Popes Head Estates** parcel, the George Mason University and the **Bertrand parcels** making the cumulative size of this tract 96 acres. The Park Authority **also acquired a 23-acre tract**, comprised of two parcels located in the **Braddock District**. This land is an addition to the Accotink Stream Valley.

Shovels were brought out for **groundbreaking ceremonies at Hutchison Elementary School** for four irrigated rectangular athletic fields. Members of the Board of Supervisors, Park Authority Board, schools and the athletic community attended. And how we needed those fields to accommodate increases in population and everyone who wants to get out there and play!

The **Needs Assessment** initiative continued with drafts of the demand survey finalized. The **Public Facilities Inventory** was completed, a **private facilities inventory** got underway and a **Benchmark Questionnaire** mailed to nine peer communities. Focus groups were scheduled in the Hispanic and the Korean communities as identified for inclusion in the Resource Management Best Practices Survey.

Life on the farm has never been better! The **annual Frying Pan Park Farm Show** attracted **1,800** visitors and featured **the raising of the Middleton Barn**, an early 1900s structure donated by Harry Middleton. The structure is one wing of a dairy barn that was disassembled when the Middleton Farm was converted to a housing development. The barn was moved to Frying Pan Park and reassembled as a joint project of the Frying Pan Park and Youth Center Supervisory Board.

And when it comes to getting things right, it is clear that the **Resource Management Division** had a banner year. The Park Authority received official notification that **Sully and Colvin Run Mill Historic Sites have been reaccredited by the American Association of Museums** and that **Green Spring Gardens Park has been accredited for the first time**. This represents the highest level of national professional museum achievement for our sites. Sully and Colvin Run were initially accredited in 1979 and were among the first county museums in the U.S. to receive this honor.

Other highlights for July included:

- RECenter **Independence Pass Sales** generated nearly half a million dollars in revenues, a **10% increase** over last year.
- **Fireworks drew thousands** of citizens to Park Authority programs at Lee District Park and Lake Fairfax on Independence Day.
- **Public hearings were held** for the **Quinn** property and the **Lane's Mill** property.

August 2002

Folks were literally doing the Jailhouse Rock as August marked important changes in the southern end of the county. The Board of Supervisors hosted **Razor Ribbon Wire Cutting Ceremonies at Lorton/Laurel Hill**. The event included remarks from local and national officials, tours, refreshments, entertainment and exhibits.

Summer camps for 2002 included **over 600 sport** and activity sessions serving **13,275 children** at RECenters, parks, schools and vendor locations. **Rec-PAC completed its first year under Park Authority management with an average of 3,200 children registered weekly at 59 school locations** in the county. The six-week program served 6,822 individuals. Six sites piloted shifted-hours programs, which allowed children attending morning summer school to attend REC-Pac in the afternoon. A total of **1,217 full scholarship** registrations were **provided** for kids, double the scholarships from last year.

The Park Authority was working hard to find out what all residents felt was important to their recreational options. The **Park Needs Assessment Demand Survey was mailed to 5,000 randomly selected citizens**. Telephone surveys were initiated, the public and private facility inventories revised and **focus groups were held** with representatives from the **Korean and Hispanic** communities.

As this report notes time after time, **partnerships are a growing reality** and something we are nurturing throughout the agency. **Riverbend Park** and the Natural Resource Protection group have begun a partnership with **Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology**. Students will learn about ecology and habitat assessment techniques.

And our history concerns were active as well in late summer as **Hugh Fairfax**, a direct descendant of Lord Fairfax, **visited Historic Sully** with his family. The family presented Historic Sully with a copy of the Fairfax family tree. Park Authority volunteer staff, under the direction of archaeologist Richard Sacchi, **conducted excavations of a slave quarters** and oversees cabin at **Grist Mill Park**. Kidwell Farm participated with the annual **4-H Fair** attracting **over 8,000 visitors** to Frying Pan Park.



The Board of Supervisors invited members of the community to get a look at Laurel Hill, formerly Lorton Prison, which is now empty and in the planning stages for adaptive reuse and recreational facilities.



Rec-PAC fills a vital role in the Park Authority's youth summer program and overall mission. It is the only Park Authority program that never fills up and is open to any eligible child regardless of ability to pay.



In the fall of 2003, Virginia Governor Mark Warner visited Sully Historic Site, located in Chantilly. He presided over the signing of the Route 28 compact that provides improved transportation corridors in the area and accommodates the needs of the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum Annex near Dulles.



Festivals throughout the community offer an opportunity for families to spend an affordable and fun-filled day in the parks. This young visitor rides a pony at the Mason District Park Festival held by the Friends of Mason District Park in the fall. Other happenings at the festival included live music, crafts and children's rides.



A young girl climbs on the new playground equipment at the McLean Central Park Tot Lot opening ceremony. Local activists worked with elected officials and the Park Authority to secure over \$70,000 to replace aging equipment and renovate the popular McLean neighborhood park.

September 2002

Fall brought a prestigious gathering to a local historic site. The Park Authority hosted Virginia **Governor Mark Warner** at Sully Historic Site for the **signing of the Route 28 compact** and agreements between the private sector, local governments and the Virginia Department of Transportation.

Let the games begin could have been the call for September. **Nottoway Park** hosted the **Vienna Carnival**, and **Mason District Park** hosted the **Annual Mason District Festival**, sponsored by the **Friends of Mason District Park**. Both events were well attended. The **South Run Off-Leash Dog Exercise area** reopened at the conclusion of Water Authority line work. **Lee District Park** and **Audrey Moore RECenter** hosted the 20th annual Northern Virginia **Senior Olympics**. Seven jurisdictions were represented and **600 over-50 athletes participated**. And 24 **high school golf teams** competed at Twin Lakes at the two-day **District Tournament**. This facility also hosted the **Billy Moore Memorial Golf Tournament** with **240 players**.

October 2002

Providing for the future was a thematic focus as Park Authority Planning staff and the Public Information Office staff worked closely with the **Park Partners** to provide information to the public about the **\$20 million Park Bond referenda** on the November 5th ballot. Staff attended meetings, helped develop videos and public affairs shows, spoke at numerous community meetings and prepared informational materials.

The value of interested and committed volunteers was clear when the **Friends of Green Spring celebrated their 10th anniversary**, marking the transition from an informal group of volunteers to the **1,200 member Friends group**, which supports the park's educational and horticultural mission and provided more than **\$18,000 in support in FY 2002**.

The Park Authority continues to take the need and **right to inclusion** seriously. The Leisure and Wellness Branch of the Park Services Division presented an overview to the **Fairfax Area Disability Services Board** on the status of the Park Authority's original Transition Plan of 1992, the current Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) practices with regard to physical and program access, and **future plans pertaining to the ADA**.

Several new golf course improvements were made including the construction of **nine new forward tees** on the lakes course at **Twin Lakes Golf Course**. The base material was reclaimed from dredging the top "empty" lake. Additionally, Jefferson Golf Course hosted the annual **Shot**

in the **Dark tournament** with a full 72-person roster and the **Oak Marr Driving Range** structure **expansion** was opened.

November 2002

November brought the beginning of the holiday season and much needed and appreciated support from voters. On November 5, **Fairfax County passed the Fall 2002 Park Bond**, which will **provide \$15 million for land acquisition and \$5 million to complete some projects** left from the 1998 bond and the **Wakefield Girl's Softball Complex**.

People were in the mood for a great party and we gave them one. The Fairfax County **Park Foundation held a fundraising gala** at the Fairview Park Marriott. This **sold-out event** featured presentations of the **Elly Doyle Park Service Awards** and the Walter Mess Award. ABC 7 Reporter John Harter served as master of ceremonies, the Seldom Scene performed and **more than \$12,000 was raised for land preservation efforts**.

Providence RECenter held a **re-opening celebration**. Highlights of the day included free admission, introduction to land and aquatic classes, kid's arts and crafts, family pool events and an introduction to the Pilates program. The opening of the **McLean Central Park Tot Lot** attracted hundreds of citizens to the ceremonies and celebration.

And there was very good news for a couple of gobblers. The **presidential turkeys** arrived at **Frying Pan Park** the Tuesday before Thanksgiving and were welcomed by a group of 40 children and parents. International, national and local press featured the annual "pardon" of the turkeys by **President George Bush**. **This year's turkey was a hen named Katie**. Her backup was a tom, named **Zach**.

Other highlights in November included:

- Park Operations began construction work on the **County's 9/11 Memorial Grove**.
- On November 14, at Twin Lakes, 76 players participated in the Second Annual **Putts for Mutts** Golf Outing to benefit local animal rescue efforts.
- The Park Authority received a **\$1,000 donation to the Adapted Aquatics** programs from the **Sterling Wal-Mart** for the purchase of a wheelchair at Spring Hill RECenter.
- Resource Management Division's Manager of Volunteer and Interpretive Services, **Mona Enquist-Johnston**, served as Special Events Co-Chair of the National Association of Interpretation's 2002 National Workshop.
- **Yvonne Johnson of Frying Pan Park** completed the Williamsburg Institute training for managers of cultural resources.



These young ladies carry home their artwork after a day of fun at the Providence RECenter Open House. The celebration marked the completion of much needed and anticipated renovations and served as a catalyst for demonstration classes, refreshments and family pool events.



Youngsters visit with the very distinguished turkeys at Frying Pan Park, newly arrived from their presidential pardon at the White House. The National Turkey Federation brings the birds to the park each year where they live out the remainder of their short lives safe from the danger of becoming a Thanksgiving feast.



The Board of Supervisors and Tree Commission dedicated the 9/11 Memorial Grove Garden in September. The site is maintained by the Park Authority and is the first U.S. memorial built on public space commemorating the attacks involving federal and local government collaboration with the community.

December 2002



This child benefits from the Park Authority's growing commitment to the provision of programs for all individuals regardless of disability or physical challenges. The Park Authority has expanded recreational opportunities for persons with disabilities with the first two Paralympic soccer clinics, as well as an eight week class for skill development. In addition, adapted aquatics programs expanded by 25 percent.



Bitter cold weather did not stop pooches and their owners from coming out to the official "leash" cutting ceremonies at Chandon Off-Leash Dog Exercise Area in Herndon. Herndon Dog, Inc., the Herndon Town Council, the Board of Supervisors and Park Authority joined together to make this dog park a reality. Dog parks allow pets a chance to run free within the confines of a fenced in area and under the supervision of their owners.

Everybody loves December – even if the weather is very cold ! **Walney Visitor Center** in Ellanor C. Lawrence Park **hosted the Manassas-Bull Run Christmas Bird Count** for the fifth consecutive year, as part of an ongoing community partnership with over 200 volunteers attending. Lake Accotink's **"Pictures with Santa Claus and Claws"** drew 300 people and 75 pets. Children's holiday **shopping events at Frying Pan Park and Colvin Run Mill** stores drew hundreds of young shoppers. The **Country Christmas** event at **Colvin Run Mill** attracted 275 visitors. The **Hayride with Santa** at Frying Pan Park was attended by 211 visitors.

One of the most important programs to get underway symbolized the agency's growing commitment to serving a diverse population. **Two soccer clinics** for 21 school-aged individuals with physical disabilities and traumatic brain injuries were conducted by Josh McKinney, an intern with the Leisure and Wellness Branch. The clinics introduced the youngsters to skills and drills and **provided a competitive atmosphere with other disabled athletes.**

January 2003

January was cold, but the dogs and their humans came out for the fun as **Chandon Dog Park** opened with a well-attended **ribbon cutting** ceremony on January 4. The second annual **Cross County Trail Caucus** was held at Fairfax High School. Approximately **100 trail enthusiasts attended.** Finally, the reconstruction of the **Middleton Barn at Frying Pan Park** was completed. The Middleton Barn is one of very few barns with open truss and beam construction.

February 2003

The best thing to say about February was let it snow, let it snow, let it snow! **Green Spring Gardens** auditorium **roof suffered a partial collapse** during the blizzard. Facilities Maintenance staff installed temporary supports to the structure to prevent further damage during the snow storm. Staff also responded to Providence RECenter to deal with flooding in the building. They cleared gutters and downspouts of ice and debris.

When it wasn't snowing teenagers were gathering to enjoy each other and great music. **Providence RECenter's After Hours Teen Concerts** continue to be a big success with 450 teen visitors in February. And speaking of success, this year's **Healthy Heart pass sale** was a record for RECenters posting \$1.4 million in revenue. This was a 10% increase over last year's sale and accounted for the sale of 372 more passes than in FY

2002. Cash contributions also remained robust for **Parks And Community Together** with \$6,325 donated since January 2003. New donors to this camp scholarship program include **Mars Incorporated** and **Fried Companies**.

March 2003

March was a busy month for the entire agency. The **Park Authority Board** held its annual **joint meeting with the Board of Supervisors**. This was an opportunity to focus on current issues, discuss the 2004 bond referendum and present the Park Authority's Annual Report entitled, "*Creating the Blueprint for Tomorrow*."

March was a time of new beginnings. The Park Authority Board gave **project approval for the Laurel Hill Golf Course**, a 260-acre facility slated for the former Lorton Prison Site. Local officials participated in the **Cub Run RECenter groundbreaking** activities. Speakers included Del. Gary Reese, Congressman Tom Davis, Board of Supervisors' Chairman Kate Hanley and Supervisor Michael Frey, and Park Board Member Harold Strickland. **The ninth RECenter will cost \$18.5 million and offer 65,000 square feet of space and facilities.**

The **Mount Vernon RECenter 25th Anniversary Celebration** was held on Saturday, March 15. Special guests included Senator Patsy Ticer, Delegate Kris Amundson, U.S. Representative Jim Moran and Supervisor Gerry Hyland. Activities included a moon bounce, face painting, rescue personnel, a musical duo, class samplers, autographs by Washington Capitals alumni Bryan "Bugsy" Watson and Paul Mulvey, ice skating with Capital's mascot Slap Shot, and swing music by the Mount Vernon Swing Band.

And the Resource Management Division had much to celebrate with several significant accomplishments. Notification was received from the **Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR)** that the Park Authority's nomination of **Quinn Farm** has received a favorable recommendation for inclusion **in the National Register of Historic Places and the Virginia Landmarks Register**. The nomination focused on the northeastern portion of the Quinn Farm where a prehistoric tool-making site is located. Additionally, the **Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network approved Riverbend Park's** nomination to become a Chesapeake Bay Gateway Site. Riverbend is the second Park Authority site to achieve this designation (Huntley Meadows was certified last year), which includes the sites in promotions of premier destinations in the bay's watershed.

Other highlights included:

- The Park Authority Collections Management Symposium, "*A Very Good Likeness: Portraits in Early America 1750-1860*," was attended by 130 museum professionals from the mid-Atlantic region.



Did somebody say snow? Park Operations Division and Park Authority staff at all sites had their hands full when the area was socked in by seemingly endless snowfall. Snow threatened the roof at Green Spring Gardens Park and precipitated the cancellation of lots and lots of classes, events and programs systemwide.



The Park Authority hosted groundbreaking ceremonies for the Cub Run RECenter with attendees including members of Congress, the state legislature, the Board of Supervisors and Board of Education. This is the ninth RECenter, which will serve the western portion of the County, and is a much needed amenity.



Mount Vernon RECenter marked its 25th anniversary with a weekend of fun. Celebrants enjoyed figure skating performances, refreshments, class samplers, live music and entrance fees reflective of the opening in 1978. Mt. Vernon RECenter is currently the only Park Authority facility with an ice skating rink.



The smile on this young girl's face speaks to the adventure and fun that can be found at Sully Historic Site. There are fascinating programs for all ages, which highlight the experiences of those who lived and worked at this 1794 home. Find out about the slaves who toiled there or the gentry who resided in the main house.



Mason District Park Pond benefits from major capital improvements that increased the water surface and replaced the dam and spillway. Supervisor Penny Gross was key to the success of the project, which aimed to improve water quality and serve as a demonstration project for other local and national jurisdictions.



Borge Park is better than ever and a haven for children who love to climb, crawl and swing. Improvements to this neighborhood park occurred with the tangible support of the community and local elected officials. Dozens of playgrounds throughout Fairfax County have been improved over the past five years.

- A new adapted-soccer program was initiated as an outgrowth of the winter clinic conducted at Lee District by Josh McKinney, the Park Authority intern who is the leading scorer on the U.S. Paralympic Soccer Team. There were 10 participants in this first session.
- Rebuilding of the waterwheel/axle shaft at Colvin Run Mill was completed.
- Spring renovations at the golf courses were completed. Courses opened in mid-March after being closed 30 consecutive days due to the snowy weather.

April 2003

With Spring in the air, it was time for outdoor and some indoor fun such as the **Green Meadows Cultural Event** for children, which drew **4,200 participants** to Lake Fairfax over a three-day period. The eight-hour **Flipside Festival** took place at Providence RECenter. Over **600 teens attended** this musical festival, which attracted a dozen local bands.

Groundbreaking ceremonies were held at Stratton Woods Community Park in Herndon. Supervisor Hudgins, Chairman Hanley and Park Authority Board Chair Winifred Shapiro spoke to the success of the project, which was only able to move forward due to the receipt of a \$370,000 grant from VDOT for road improvements. **Groundbreaking ceremonies were also held at Mason District Park Pond.** Improvements include replacement of the dam and spillway, doubling of water surface and construction of wetlands. Supervisor Penny Gross was joined by Chairman Hanley, Supervisor Connolly and Park Authority Board members. **Ribbon cutting ceremonies** celebrating the renewal and expansion of the park's playground **were held at Borge Park** in the Providence District. Supervisor Gerald Connolly joined Park Authority Board Member Joanne Malone and other Board members in remarks.

We could not function without our volunteers, who were recognized and thanked by the Park Authority Board at its annual **Volunteer Service Appreciation Reception** in the atrium of the Herrity Building. Dozens of volunteers were honored for their good works. We also listened to the residents interested in park development in the southern portion of the county. Three **stakeholder meetings were held** by the Park Authority Board and Planning Division to hear from those interested in particular uses and facilities **at Laurel Hill.**

Other highlights during April included:

- Easter holiday festivities at Lake Accotink drew 500 participants for hunts and contests, followed by a Bone Hunt for dogs. Over 100 canines attended the affair.

- WalkAmerica, a March of Dimes fundraiser, was held at Lake Fairfax with 800 participants.

May 2003

This was a very wet year! Despite inclement weather, the **2003 Springfield Days** were held from May 30 – June 1 in venues throughout Springfield. The crowds were down for the parade, carnival at Springfield Plaza and fireworks at Lake Accotink, but about **10,000 attended the three-day event**. The carnival generated \$20,000 in revenue. But rain helps things grow and that was on tap as **Green Spring Gardens** launched a pilot **Children's Gardening Program** in partnership with **South Run RECenter**. The first class of 13 children began the 11-week program in May. A number of scholarships were provided by community organizations.

Ribbon cutting ceremonies were held at **Clermont Park** in Alexandria. Speaking at the ceremonies were Board of Supervisor's Chairman Kate Hanley, Supervisor Dana Kauffman, Supervisor Gerald Connolly, Park Board Member Ed Batten, former Park Board Member Harold Henderson and members of the athletic community. Several dozen young players attended the opening of this four-field athletic complex. Additionally, numerous friends and family members gathered to dedicate the **Warren B. Johnson trail segment** and sign in **Woodley Hills Park, Mt. Vernon**. Supervisor Gerry Hyland and Park Authority Board Member Gilbert McCutcheon joined in acknowledging the many contributions to the community made by Mr. Johnson.

Planning workshops, a design charette and meetings were held for Laurel Hill. Planning staff facilitated discussions with stakeholders to gain insight into the desires of the community for this 1,600 acre site. The draft conceptual plan was presented publicly and will be refined over the next several months. Several **interim use ball fields opened at Laurel Hill**. Officials and ball players gathered to celebrate and **cut a ribbon at the Nike site** on May 31.

In partnership with Fairfax County Public Schools, Resource Management Division presented **two science workshops for teachers at Riverbend and Colvin Run Mill**. The Park Service Division's Aquatic Section has developed "**The Perils and Pleasures of the Potomac**," a 90-minute river safety program targeted to ninth grade students. The safety program was presented with assistance from the Potomac River Smallmouth Bass Fishing Club and received warmly.

The rainy weather continued to impact Park Authority outdoor programs, but **The Water Mine** still opened May 31st for its 7th season. **Huntley Meadows Park's annual Wetlands Awareness Day** attracted **850 visitors**.



These junior gardeners participated in a pilot project sponsored by Green Spring Gardens Park and the South Run RECenter, which provided gardening instruction, materials and space for youngsters. The program was popular and successful. It will be expanded in the future.



Let's play ball! The cloudy skies didn't get in the way as players gathered in large numbers for ribbon cutting ceremonies held last May at Clermont Park in Alexandria. The athletic complex includes four state-of-the-art irrigated fields, an expanded parking area and new landscaping.



Gerry Hyland, Mt. Vernon representative on the Board of Supervisors, gathered with family and friends to honor Warren B. Johnson, a longtime Mount Vernon resident and activist. A trail segment and sign were dedicated in his memory at the request of the Mount Vernon Citizens' Association.



Hidden Pond Nature Center, located in the urban surroundings of Springfield, offers open space and a natural setting for visitors to enjoy. As of June 2003, Fairfax County parkland totaled 22,547-acres.



Nothing beats the summer heat like a day at the Water Mine at Lake Fairfax Park. While the Water Mine's attractions are designed for elementary-aged children, there's something here for everyone.

Lake Accotink Park held **the first Spring Break camp with 40 children** participating and **Hudson Trail Outfitters held a Boat Demo Day** with 250 participating at Lake Fairfax. Lots of wet fun!

June 2003

There was significant progress in the area of land acquisition during June. The **Board of Supervisors transferred 867-acres at Laurel Hill to the Park Authority.** This land includes the central area of parkland at the former prison site with the former Nike Control and Launch facilities and planned golf course. The **year-end total for Fiscal Year 2003** Park Authority land acquisitions **included nine acquisitions totaling 932 acres.** The parkland **total as of June 2003 was 22,547-acres.**

Lake Fairfax Park's **Water Mine** was named **2003's Best Swimming Pool/Water Park** by *Washington Families Magazine* in the publication's annual Best for Families survey.

National Trails Day was celebrated on June 7 at **Laurel Hill with the installation of the southernmost trail post in the Cross County Trail.** Congressman Tom Davis, Supervisor Gerald Connolly, Park Authority Board Member Jennifer Heinz and representatives from local trail groups spoke and held a short hike, despite rainy weather.

And there were many, many events to take part in such as the **Sully Car Show**, which drew nearly 3,500 paying attendees, 800 guests and earned \$19,500 in revenue. Other events in June included the **Austin Healey 2003 Washington D.C. Car Show** at Lake Fairfax, attended by more than 1,000; more than 700 boy scouts camped out at Lake Fairfax in June; Twin Lakes hosted the **13th Annual Combo Classic** golf tournament, drawing 56 players, many with disabilities. Twin Lakes also hosted the **Northern Virginia Public Golf League Tournament**, which drew 72 golfers. Lake Accotink held its **14th annual Cardboard Boat Regatta** on June 1. More than 2,000 attended this wacky event. Green Spring Gardens Park held its **Green Fling**, which generated more than \$4,000 in revenue.

Other June highlights included:

- The American Red Cross recognized the Park Authority for presenting the most water safety aquatic classes, teaching and training the most classes and students in Fairfax County/Falls Church from April 2002 to April 2003.
- Celebrate Fairfax included Park Authority displays at three locations: Resource Management displayed a quilt named "Floral Fantasy;" Collections Management prepared an exhibit at the History Tent and the Public Information Office, in cooperation with the County Executive's Office, displayed the Laurel Hill master planning process.

Director's Message

By any standard, Fiscal Year 2003 was an extraordinary year full of challenges to our patrons and customers as well as the Park Authority Board and the staff. This was a time to be glad that written policies existed for emergency situations, as well as a time to think on our feet for those unique situations that called for actions and decision making based on gut-level feelings and experience rather than what happened last time. In many cases, there was no last time!

Let's look back for a moment. The summer of 2002 set a record for the most days exceeding 90 degrees. The intense heat took a toll on parkland, programs, camps and activities throughout the park system. In the fall of 2002, our region was terrorized by heartless snipers who picked victims at random. The County and local schools, as well as our Park Authority Board, were called upon to decide whether or not to close fields and cancel programs, all in the hope of protecting our children from this unfathomable harm. These were daunting circumstances without precedent.

The winter of 2003 brought some of the heaviest snows in memory and closed down schools for ten days. And in March, as spring arrived with its blossoms and warmer temperatures, our nation went to war with Iraq and people stayed away from our parks and facilities, seeking the solace and safety of their homes. Spring was unusually cold and wet, with heavy rains, and our facilities experienced lower-than-normal visitation and registration. And we have not even mentioned the hurricane yet and the damage left in Isabel's wake in Calendar Year 2003.

So, this was a year to remember. And yet, in many ways it was a year of great accomplishment. It was our Gold Medal year, a time dedicated to the celebration of our selection as the best managed park system in the nation as decided by our peers. Our Needs Assessment study is complete and will lay the groundwork for the creation of a ten-year capital improvement plan and the upcoming bond referendum. Citizens voted overwhelmingly to support our 2002 Bond, which provided \$15 million for land acquisition and another \$5 million to complete projects remaining from the 1998 bond. These efforts are nearing completion.

More than ever, the Park Authority depends on volunteers. They are an immeasurable and equally invaluable resource either as individuals who dedicate knowledge, time and effort or in larger numbers when they function as influential friends groups. We witnessed the power and tenacity of friends groups this year when budget shortfalls threatened the operations at Park Authority facilities. Their voice and organizational prowess stopped those cuts in their tracks. A newly emerging federation of these groups promises to be an asset for our organization.

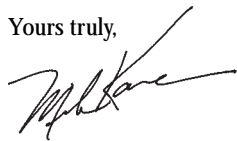
There is a real sense of inclusion as the Park Authority moves towards increased accessibility at all sites and facilities through retrofits and the creation of planning tools that will take care of these issues in the early stages of future project design. Programmatically we've seen an increase in aquatic offerings as well as soccer clinics and golf course accessibility for physically challenged individuals. Design and funding are becoming a reality at CLEMYJONTRI Park, a fully accessible playground that will set new standards for inclusion.

When we open new doors, we are obligated to provide our staff with the tools to deal with that which lies on the other side. We have trained our personnel to recognize and understand the differences between the many cultures in our community. We continue to embrace these new neighbors with culturally diverse concerts and programming and a new sensitivity to their unique ways of recreating and different needs. It is a learning experience for all of us and a very human experience that improves each of us as members of this community.

We have many challenges facing us at the conclusion of this fiscal year. The Park Authority Board will be working to strike a balance between both sides of our mission to provide recreational opportunities as we preserve and protect our open space. New facilities such as Cub Run RECenter and the Wakefield Skate Park will be coming on line and require staffing despite lean budgetary times. This year will bring new partnerships as we look to realize the potential at Laurel Hill. A new development plan will be brought forward for public consideration, and dozens of master plans will be updated as well. We have lots to do and the will and capability to do it well.

While it's true that gunmen can silence parks, adverse weather can keep us off our fields and budget woes can inflict hardship at our sites, it is also true that dedicated individuals can get past those obstacles and simply make things work. I have great confidence in our staff, and I watched with pride as they weathered the "storm" that was the past fiscal year. I remain confident and committed to the approaching year and look forward to working with you, and for you.

Yours truly,



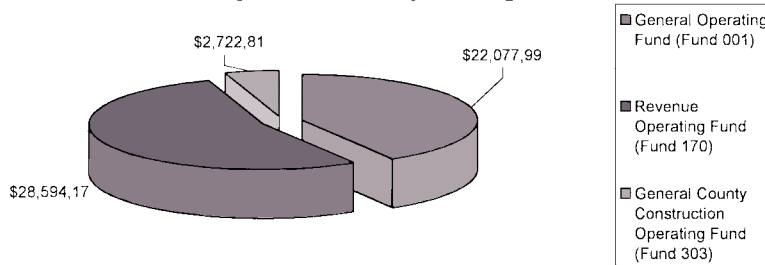
Director Michael A. Kane

Opening New Budgetary Doors

The FY 2003 Park Authority financial reports have been audited and are in conformity with generally accepted accounting principals. In Fiscal Year 2003, the Park Authority fully utilized its General Fund budget appropriation and achieved positive net-revenues in the Revenue Fund despite unfavorable conditions due to the weather and the sniper incident. The Park Authority has also paid off the \$2.2 million note for the Cardinal Forest property with an appropriation from the County. Further, in FY 2003, an external survey was designed to measure how important various parks or services are in the lives of Fairfax County households.

The urbanization of Fairfax County has had a particular impact on the park system. Results of the FY 2003 survey indicate that 90 percent of County residents utilize the parks. The natural and cultural resources on parkland are increasingly under stress from surrounding development and heavy citizen use. The opening of additional facilities such as Cub Run RECenter and Laurel Hill Golf Course will also increase the demand on existing operations and the maintenance of resources. The Park Authority has identified a need for active management of these resources, and additional funding will be required to meet current and future management obligations and challenges.

Total Park Authority FY 2004 - Operating Funds



Looking Ahead

The FY 2004 Revenue Fund Budget will have favorable net revenue. In FY 2004, the Park Authority will get 41 percent of its support for operating expenses from General Fund tax dollars, five percent from the General County Construction Fund, while 54 percent will come from participant fees, concession sales and other revenue sources.

Our FY 2003 Fund Development Program Report

FY 2003 was another successful year for fundraising for the Fairfax County Park Authority. The total amount of funds received from grants, cash donations and in-kind contributions of goods and services was \$1,059,633.

FY 2003 Cash and In-Kind Donations

The Fund Development Program tracked donations received from non-grant sources such as event sponsorships, Park Authority supporters and in-kind donations of goods and services. Cash donations include those from the Open Space Land Preservation Fund as well as parks' friends groups and other contributors. In-kind donations include such items as radio advertisements and musical concerts by the Fairfax Symphony.

Donation Type		Total
Cash		\$341,582
In-kind Goods	\$80,657	
In-kind Services	\$211,919	
Total In-Kind Contributions		\$292,576
Total Cash & In-Kind Contributions		\$634,158

FY 2003 Grants Summary

Grants received during FY 2003 supported projects as varied as trail signage and interpretation, golf lessons for disadvantaged youth, roadway access and summer camp for homeless children. The total amount of grant funds awarded to Park Authority projects in FY 2003 was \$425,475.

Site/Purpose	Funding Source	Request	Award*
Stratton Woods Park Access	VDOT Recreational Access Funds	\$370,000	\$370,000
Youth Golf Initiative Program-Greendale Golf Course	USGA Foundation	\$7,110	\$3,500
Cross County Trail Signage	VA Recreational Trails Fund	\$28,000	\$28,000
PACT Summer Day Camp	George Preston Marshall Foundation	\$3,975	\$3,975
Potomac River Gorge Interpretive Trail-Riverbend Park	Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network	\$20,000	\$20,000
TOTAL AWARDED			\$425,475

**Award is counted during the fiscal year it is received*

Comparison of All FCPA Fundraising Efforts

A comparison of all fund-raising efforts, including grants, cash and in-kind donations, between FY 2000 and FY 2003 is shown below. The significant increase in cash donations and grants in FY 2001 was due to the initiation of the Open Space Land Preservation Fund, the receipt of several significant grants, gifts and donations, and a fund transfer.

	FY 2000	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003
Grants Awarded	6	9	7	5
Value of Grants	\$126,500	\$801,318	\$141,348	\$425,475
Value Cash Donations	\$253,420	\$777,580	\$403,076	\$341,582
Value In-kind Donations	\$175,180	\$190,830	\$210,551	\$292,576
Total	\$555,100	\$1,769,728	\$754,975	\$1,059,633

Mastenbrook Grants Program

The Mastenbrook Volunteer Matching Fund Grant Program was established by the Fairfax County Park Authority in May 1999. This matching grant fund program for volunteer projects was first suggested by John Mastenbrook during the development of the 1998 Park Bond Program. Mr. Mastenbrook, a long-time park advocate, served on the Fairfax County Park Authority Board for 21 years. His vision was to establish a source of funds to match volunteer funds or in-kind services in an effort to encourage public/private ventures to improve County parks.

At the time that the Mastenbrook Grant Program was established, the Park Authority approved a set of guidelines for the review and approval of these grants. Funding for the Mastenbrook Grant Program in the amount of \$300,000 was allocated from the 1998 park bond referendum.

There were numerous Mastenbrook Grants awarded during Fiscal Year 2003. The grants are indicative of the wide array of projects desired by citizens and the diverse nature of park facilities. Individuals and groups matched these grants through sweat equity and cash alike. This program brings volunteers and agents of change into our system. These grants open doors for scouts and civic associations as well as sports enthusiasts and gardeners. Individuals or groups can apply for up to \$10,000 in funds to be matched in cash or through in-kind services.

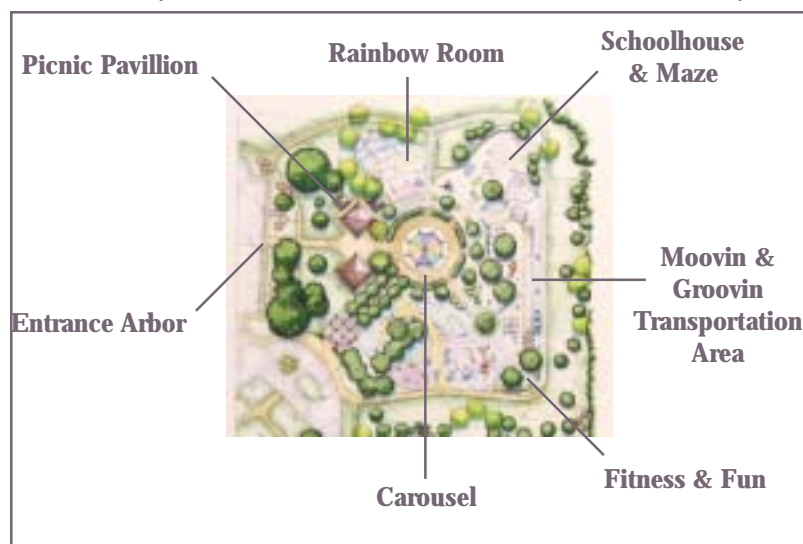
- Herndon Dogs, Inc was a recipient. This grant supported the creation of an off-leash dog exercise area at Chandon Park. Total project costs were \$20,410 with a grant awarded for \$10,000.
- The Friends of McLean Central Park were recipients of a \$10,000 grant which helped fund a tot lot at McLean Central Park. Total project costs were \$38,000.
- Another recipient was Eagle Scout Troop 1518, which worked to reduce flooding at Lake Accotink with a matching grant of \$460. Total project costs were \$2,065. The troop donated in-kind labor.
- The Friends of Colvin Run Mill received a \$3,000 grant for the creation and installation of a new exhibit. Total project costs were \$6,400.
- A shade garden will become a reality at Pine Spring Park with a grant of \$2,500 to the Pine Spring Civic Association. The total project costs are \$6,750 and will be matched in cash and with in-kind donations.
- The Falls Church Lawn Bowling Club will establish a lawn bowling green at Burke Lake with a \$5,000 grant. Total project costs are \$25,271 and will be supplemented by Park Authority funding and a cash contribution from the Bowling Club.
- Once again the Friends of Green Spring Gardens Park are hard at work making site improvements. Their Mastenbrook Grant provides funding for the Glass House exhibit and signage. The grant is for \$10,000 and total project costs are \$20,075.
- Playground construction resonated at Lamond as the Villamay Community Association worked towards a \$15,000 cash match to a \$7,000 grant. This grant, combined with a previous grant of \$10,000, provided the funding needed to complete the playground. Total expenditures are \$42,000.
- The Mastenbrook Grant program has funded improvements at Hollin Hall Park with the assistance of the Fort Hunt Youth Athletic Association. A ball field irrigation system improves the site for \$42,000 with a \$10,000 grant.
- The Northern Virginia Conservation Trust was another recipient. A \$1,500 grant was provided for the creation of a native garden and hedgerow at Riverbend Park. Total project costs were \$4,061.
- Improvements to the Horticulture Library at Green Spring Gardens paved the way for a grant to Mrs. Harry Van Cleve. Total project costs are \$20,000.

The Foundation

The Fairfax County Park Foundation is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization that is committed to supporting the Fairfax County park system and its more than four million visitors each year. The Foundation's mission is to raise funds to support the parks and acreage under the stewardship of the Park Authority. Less than half of the Park Authority's annual operating funds come from tax support. The Foundation's goal is to bridge the gap between income from tax support and user fees, and the cost to operate, maintain and preserve our parks.

CLEMYJONTRI

The Foundation's major fundraising project for this past fiscal year has been CLEMYJONTRI Park, a park designed for all children including those with developmental and sensory disabilities. This 18-acre McLean property was donated to the Park Authority by Mrs. Adele Lebowitz, who decided to preserve her home as parkland. The park was named by Mrs. Lebowitz to honor her four children: Carolyn (CL), Emily (emy), John (jon) and Patria (tri).



Since the donation was unexpected, the Park Foundation has been working to obtain the funds so that this project can progress.

The park is designed so that children with and without disabilities can play together. Approximately ten percent of America's children are faced with disabilities. Traditionally playgrounds present an obstacle to these children because they are unable to access the equipment. The CLEMYJONTRI playground will include features that are designed for wheelchairs and braces as well as sensory-rich equipment that allows active participation by all children.

Phase I of the project broke ground on October 11, 2003, and includes a playground with a centerpiece carousel, picnic pavilion and restroom facilities.

Open Space Land Preservation Fund

On January 10, 2000, the Board of Supervisors directed staff to establish a mechanism to allow the public to make voluntary contributions to preserve open space. These donations are now solicited through an enclosure with the Department of Tax Administration's Filing By Exception Forms. These forms are mailed to all registered vehicle owners in the County. In spring 2001, the first mailing of the Open Space Land Preservation Fund forms was completed. Over roughly a three-year period, donations in the amount of \$294,955 have been collected.

All donations to the Fairfax County Park Foundation are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. Donations to the Park Foundation and/or CLEMYJONTRI Park can be made by sending checks to The Fairfax County Park Foundation; 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 927; Fairfax, VA 22035. Donations for Clemyjontri Park can also be made on-line at <http://www.clemypark.com/donate.html>. For information, please call 703-324-8581, e-mail SupportParks@aol.com or visit the website at www.FairfaxCountyParkFoundation.com.

Opening Schoolhouse Doors in Partnership

Partnerships are one of the most important ways that the Park Authority opens new doors. We have partnerships with hundreds of organizations and thousands of individuals who assist us. One of the most dependable and invaluable partnerships is with our schools. School children visit our sites and participate in learning programs, teachers share in the education and the Park Authority works hard to ensure that the Standards Of Learning curricula are implemented in our interpretive programming. Here are just a few examples of on-going partnerships.

Park Operations Division:

- The Park Operations Division has overseen contracted mowing services for elementary and middle schools for the past three seasons. The contract encompasses all non-high school athletic fields, which includes 161 sites, 510 fields and 600-plus acres. Park Operations also provides such amenities as bases, benches, bleachers and infield mix.

Park Services Division:

- The Park Authority participates in the “Character Counts” program which promotes good character through recreation. Participation is an effort to support the character education initiative in several schools through the summer Rec-PAC program.
- George Washington RECenter participated in the Professional Technical Studies Program at Mount Vernon High School, employing students for high school credits.
- Providence RECenter worked cooperatively with Falls Church High School to offer water safety instruction as part of the physical education curriculum in exchange for use of gyms.

Planning & Development Division:

- The Centreville Farms Joint Development is an example of cooperation that benefits the public. A joint development plan allows for seven athletic fields, four within the park and three on adjacent school property. The completed facilities will share parking, driveways, trails and utilities.
- The Board of Supervisors approved a public-private partnership between the Park Authority and Fairfax County Public Schools for South County Public Facilities, which will result in the construction of a private, age-restricted community, a public high school and an 18-hole golf course on land formerly used as Lorton Prison.
- The “\$300 K Program” created a partnership between the Park Authority, Public Schools and the Department of Community and Recreation Services (DCRS) in order to make improvements to athletic fields at several middle and elementary schools in an effort to upgrade the quality of the playing surfaces. DCRS coordinates the requests with the Athletic Council, and the Park Authority manages the construction of the improvements. Public schools assist in coordination of work and provide use and utilities.



It may just look like someone mowing the field, but Kyle Long, Athletic Field Maintenance Manager, is carefully grooming a field for play. The Park Authority cares for hundreds of fields in the community as well as many school fields. Our workforce consists of experts who teach others about proper field maintenance.



It seems you can never have enough fields for all the kids who simply want to play ball. The field demand for a wide array of sports and participants of all ages continues to challenge the Park Authority. A recent County survey provides data to help guide the construction of recreational resources for the next ten years.

- Many school sites have undeveloped open areas for future schools and expansion of facilities. Where sites are not projected to be needed for school purposes, Interim Use Agreements provide recreational uses such as soccer and baseball fields on school property.

Resource Management Division:

- Nature and historic programs are incorporating history and science Standard of Learning related information. The Park Authority provides volunteer opportunities at the nature centers for students to satisfy high school graduation requirements.
- Green Spring Gardens has a partnership with Columbia Elementary to help develop a wildlife habitat garden and incorporate lessons from the garden into the classroom.
 - Hidden Oaks Nature Center and Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation work with Woodson High School students to conduct quarterly water surveys for the AP Biology Class. Woodson High Science Honor Society also volunteers at Hidden Oaks.
 - Riverbend Park partnered with McLean High School AP Environmental Science Class to start stream monitoring and an amphibian survey at Scott's Run Nature Preserve.
 - Classes from Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology are conducting forest classification studies within Riverbend Park. Park staff oversees this project and provide identification training and programs for students.
 - Riverbend Park staff provide nature and science-related programs for the 7th and 8th grade English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL) students from Rocky Run Middle School. Staff also provides wildlife and water quality programs for students from Kent Gardens Elementary School. Park staff assisted teachers with stream monitoring training and the classes assist with wildlife studies in the park and water quality monitoring in Fairfax County streams.
 - The Upper Accotink Creek Watershed Education Program sponsored a watershed education program clean-up day at Lake Accotink Park. Over 100 Crestwood Elementary and Cardinal Forest Elementary School students participated with a total of 300 bags of trash collected. Students from both schools crafted ceramic tiles depicting Lake Accotink and the tiles were compiled to create a beautiful display in the marina area.
 - Huntley Meadows Park has allowed five neighborhood schools the opportunity to register for school programs one week early and receive a reduced fee.
 - Through ParkPals, Huntley Meadows Park staff visit Hybla Valley Elementary School twice a year to provide programs for 1st and 2nd graders. Staff also participate in Career Day for the Hybla Valley 3rd grade students.
 - Groveton High School is participating in The Historic Huntley Project. The staff provide programming for Mt. Vernon Woods Head Start. A cooperative effort between instructional staff at Stratford Landing Elementary School and Huntley Meadows created the design for the Northern Virginia Ecology Website, with links to the Huntley website.
- Sully Historic Site has a partnership with West Springfield High School and its Applied History Program. For the past 11 years, high school interns have been sent to Sully, Colvin Run Mill and the archaeology section each year to gain practical experience in the field.



Partnerships are hip! Just ask these Junior Gardeners who are working closely with Resource Management Division staff members and local schools to create habitat gardens. Lessons from the garden are also incorporated into the classroom. How green does my garden grow!



Historic Huntley, a rare architectural gem, sits looking over the broad valley farmed by generations of Masons. It was built in 1825 by Thomson Francis Mason, grandson of George Mason of Gunston Hall. This site awaits funding for much needed restoration and preservation efforts.



Volunteers are the Gold in our Parks

During Fiscal Year 2003, the Fairfax County Park Authority was recognized as the Gold Medal award recipient for the top urban park system in the United States. The extraordinary work of the agency's nearly 2,000 volunteers helped bring this Gold Medal home. In ways large and small, volunteers energize the parks, making programs come alive and adding vitality to our services.

Every day in our parks volunteers share their time, talents and passion. They bring the past alive at historic sites, work one-on-one with students in adapted aquatics, conduct archaeological digs in parks, lead educational programs at nature centers, interact with the public at recreation centers, manage play at golf courses, participate in the Adopt-A-Park program, keep fields maintained as Adopt-A-Field partners, ensure safety at dog parks and perform scores of other critical duties. In 2003, Park Authority volunteers contributed more than 144,257 hours for a value of over \$2.4 million based on the national average for the value of volunteer hours as reported by the *Independent Sector*.

As part of the Fairfax County Park Authority staff, volunteers receive training, recognition and supervision. Training, essential to the agency volunteer program's success, is offered formally and informally throughout the year. Volunteers are recognized at agency, division and site levels through ongoing programs such as "Elly Doyle Park Service Award," "Very Important Volunteer Award," etc. In order to effectively manage the efforts of the volunteer staff, each site volunteer program is managed by a staff member.

Special Highlights

In celebration of National Volunteer Week, the Park Authority Board hosted a reception to recognize outstanding agency volunteers. The following volunteers were honored during the reception: Dvin Adalian, Ryan Archer, Chase Blasé, Michelle Brannon, Vincent Cardella, Joann Cassano, Dennis Cleary, Scott Darwin, Dara Downs, P.J. Dunn, Cathy Eckhof, Kait Feeney, Friends of Huntley Meadows Park, Bob Grossman, Brooke and Tina Harrington, Jim Hogan, Kelly Hogan, Mary Craddock Hoffman, Chris Holland, Karla Jamir, Eric Klieber, Lindsay Kozikowski, Ralf Kuehnel, Phyllis Levine, John Lewis, Cecil Limburg, Katie Little, Marjorie Lundegard, Jerry Maravetz, Tom Mathis, Hank Mendenhall, Eileen McCaffrey, Erin McCaffrey, John McClanahan, Gwen McIntyre, Robert Muir, Dottie O'Rourke, Adam Osterman, Ryan Pawlik, Joann Phillips, Joe Pruden, John Reinhart, Kevin Rohn, Marj Soroos, The Sully Stitchers, Genie Schatz, Amy Silverthorn, Malynna Silverthorn, Dewey Smith and Nick Yannarell.

Volunteers Bring Home the Gold

Volunteers are the gold in our parks. They add value and make our parks sparkle. They are vital to enabling Fairfax County parks to reach their true



There is just something about Hidden Oaks that attracts teenagers to their volunteer programs. Perhaps it is the hands-on experience they get taking care of animals and handling snakes. There are so many activities that volunteers can get involved in that choosing what to take on first is one of the greatest challenges. Recent volunteers have received White House recognition for their work and letters of recommendation to augment the rewards that the work offers in itself. With 16 teen volunteers graduating high school this past year there is room at this facility and others throughout the park system for new faces and enthusiastic contributors.



The Park Authority depends on volunteers at our historic sites, RECenters and many other locations in the field. There are opportunities to fit every area of interest. Perhaps you want to work with our archeology team or become an adapted aquatics instructor? Maybe you prefer a lakefront park or one of our nature centers or working as a docent at a historic site? Join us in volunteering for something you really want to do and enjoy!



Chairman Gerry Connolly of the Board of Supervisors, joined hikers and trail enthusiasts on National Trails Day despite the very rainy June morning. Organizers unveiled the southernmost trail marker on the Cross County Trail at the new Laurel Hill facility, formally the Lorton Prison site. Following the unveiling, attendees celebrated with a short hike in the woods and past the prison walls.



Mt. Vernon RECenter celebrated its 25th anniversary this past year. Above, revelers head back from the ice rink after watching demonstrations by the figure skaters and hockey teams. It was a day full of fun, music and community sharing. Below, the Washington Capitals' mascot, Slapshot, shares a moment with two adorable fans!



potential for excellence. This year, volunteers impacted the lives of more than 800 children and adults in adapted aquatics classes by helping them to learn to swim and feel comfortable in the water. They helped more than 70,646 school children and scouts learn about nature, history and horticulture, and they welcomed more than 1.5 million park customers at Fairfax County Park Authority RECenters.

Use your talents, energy and time to power parks!

- To work outdoors, improve parks, adopt a field, adopt a park, monitor a dog park, clean a stream or maintain a trail, contact the Park Operation Division at 703-324-8594.
- To stay fit, help others, manage golf play, be an exercise buddy, greet park visitors, beautify park grounds, assist with office operation or teach swimming to people with special needs, contact the Park Services Division at 703-324-8680.
- To assist with archaeological digs, lead nature programs, preserve history, guide tours of historic sites, welcome visitors, cultivate park gardens or protect natural resources, contact the Resource Management Division at 703-324-8750.

Find out how you can get involved – visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/volunteer.htm

Literally Opening New Doors: Dedications & Other Events

Fiscal Year 2003 was full of openings, dedications and celebrations of every kind. Ceremonies to dedicate new and renovated park facilities or to break ground for new facilities provide citizens with an opportunity to see and celebrate park development and expansion.

Park

McLean Central Park
McLean Central Park
Chandon Park
Mount Vernon RECenter
Cub Run RECenter
Mason District Park Pond
Stratton Woods Park.
Clermont Park
Warren B Johnson Trail
Laurel Hill
Colvin Run Mill
Laurel Hill

Event

Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies, Gazebo
Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies, Tot Lot
Opening, Off-Leash Dog Exercise Area
25th Anniversary Celebration
Groundbreaking, Newest RECenter
Groundbreaking, Watershed Project
Groundbreaking, Athletic Fields
Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies, Athletic Fields
Trail Dedication
Ribbon Cutting, Interim Use Ball Fields
Rededication, Waterwheel
National Trails Day

Awards

The Fairfax County Park Authority is the recipient of awards from local, state and national programs. This recognition is truly a reflection of the quality of our volunteers, our staff and our leadership. The awards listed below were received during Fiscal Year 2003.

- *MetLife Foundation: Older Volunteers Enrich America—Nick Yannarell*
Nick Yannarell was honored for his contributions to the Resource Management Division. He has been a Park Authority volunteer for over 20 years, volunteering his time at both Colvin Run Mill Historic Site and Ellanor C. Lawrence Park.
- *National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials: Outstanding Contributor—Clemens Gailliot, Jr. (Merit)*
The Outstanding Contributor award was bestowed upon Clemens Gailliot, Jr. for his generosity, which includes over \$183,000 donated to the Park Authority since 1991. His donations have gone to support Lee District Park, Huntley Mansion, PACT and the Youth Golf Initiative.
- *National Association of Counties: Achievement Award—After Hours: Reaching Out to the Teen Population*
In December 2001, the Park Authority launched its After Hours program, which consists of free concerts specifically targeted towards teenagers. This program was recognized as an innovative youth program that provides positive leisure activities for teens.
- *National Association of Counties: Achievement Award—Fitlinxx: A Virtual Training Partner (Best In Category)*
Fitlinxx, a computerized fitness network system, is the first of its kind in the Northern Virginia area installed by a public agency. The system shows users the results of their fitness efforts, which assists in encouraging exercisers to stick with healthy habits.
- *Fairfax County: A. Heath Onthank Award—Tawny Hammond*
Lake Accotink Park Manager Tawny Hammond has done much for her park's community. She has helped to get Springfield area residents involved in their community by launching beautification and clean-up projects, and expanding Lake Accotink's classes, programs and events.
- *National Association of County Information Officers: Awards of Excellence/Annual Reports—2002 Fairfax County Park Foundation Annual Report*
The Park Foundation's 2002 Annual Report was the first ever produced for the Foundation. The visually appealing product was designed to convey how the Foundation helps to support county parks.
- *National Association for Interpretation: Master Interpretive Manager & NAI Region 2: Meritorious Service—Mona Enquist-Johnston*
As a manager of the Park Authority's Volunteer and Interpretive Services Section, Mona has worked for over 15 years developing volunteer, interpretive and training programs.



The National Association of Counties bestowed an Achievement Award on the popular After Hours Program, a free concert series that reaches out to the teen population. More than 600 teens came out to listen to local bands and enjoy each other's company at Providence RECenter. This initial success has paved the way for more teen-specific programs in the future.



Tawny Hammond, manager of Lake Accotink Park in Springfield, was honored by former Board of Supervisors' Chairman Katherine Hanley and County Executive Anthony Griffin with an A. Heath Onthank Award, the County's highest award. Hammond was recognized for her outstanding efforts in the community.

- *Fairfax County Tree Commission Trees Award—Paul Baldino*
Paul Baldino, director of the Park Authority from 1997 to 2002, received this award in recognition of his outstanding efforts in preserving, protecting and planting trees.
- *National Association for Interpretation: Interpretive Excellence Award—Charles Smith*
Charles Smith, a historian and assistant manager of Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, was recognized for his contributions towards increasing public awareness, appreciation and understanding of nature, horticulture and history.

The Elly Doyle Park Service Awards

The Elly Doyle Park Service Award was established by the Fairfax County Park Authority to publicly recognize a citizen or group of citizens for outstanding contributions to the park system in Fairfax County. This year's recipients and honorees of the 'Ellys' are:

- Robert Lundegard: Founder of the Friends of Colvin Run Mill and a stalwart park volunteer
- Bob Fuss: A volunteer Adapted Aquatics instructor for the past decade who teaches disabled swimmers by example
- McDonald's Corporation: A 15-year supporter of the Arts in the Parks children's entertainment series that provides tens of thousands of children with free performances each summer
- Ken Moore: A contributor of time, talent and tangible gifts to Huntley Meadows Park
- Cub Scout Pack 146 of St. Timothy School: Participants in the biannual Park Watershed Cleanup Days since 1995
- Chris Holland: A student honoree who has been an outstanding volunteer and mentor over the years at Hidden Oaks Nature Center



The Park Authority Elly Doyle winners stand proudly before an appreciative crowd at recent festivities to honor these volunteers and individuals who have contributed to our parks. Each year this recognition captures the best and brightest for their generous support of the park system. Above, winners stand with Park Board Chairman Winnie Shapiro and former Supervisor's Chairman Kate Hanley.



It gets crazy at the Cardboard Boat Regatta. Winning takes on a whole new meaning as just staying afloat becomes the name of the game. Lake Accotink Park joins with community organizations to present Springfield Days, a three day event that includes the boat race, parade and fireworks. Tens of thousands of people come out each year for this annual event.

Outstanding Performance Awards

These countywide awards provide recognition to Fairfax County employees who perform the duties and responsibilities of their positions in an outstanding manner and whose work is well above expectations.

November 2002:

- Doreen Henry, South Run RECenter
- John Rutherford, Resource Stewardship
- Chris Thayer, Automated Services
- Carmen Fermin, Providence RECenter
- James Duncan, Planning and Development
- Donnie Hawkins, Mobile Crew

Managerial Excellence: Charlie Bittenbring, Park Services

March 2003:

- Jenny Pate, Planning and Development
- Leon Nawojchik, Ellanor C. Lawrence Park
- Juan D. Rosales, Twin Lakes Golf Course
- Dolores Claytor, Financial Management
- Parveen Bhatia, Financial Management
- John Pitts, Planning and Development
- Timothy Scott, Planning and Development

Planning and Development

The Planning and Development Division maintained the trend of previous years, again achieving significant capital development and land acquisition accomplishments for the Park Authority.

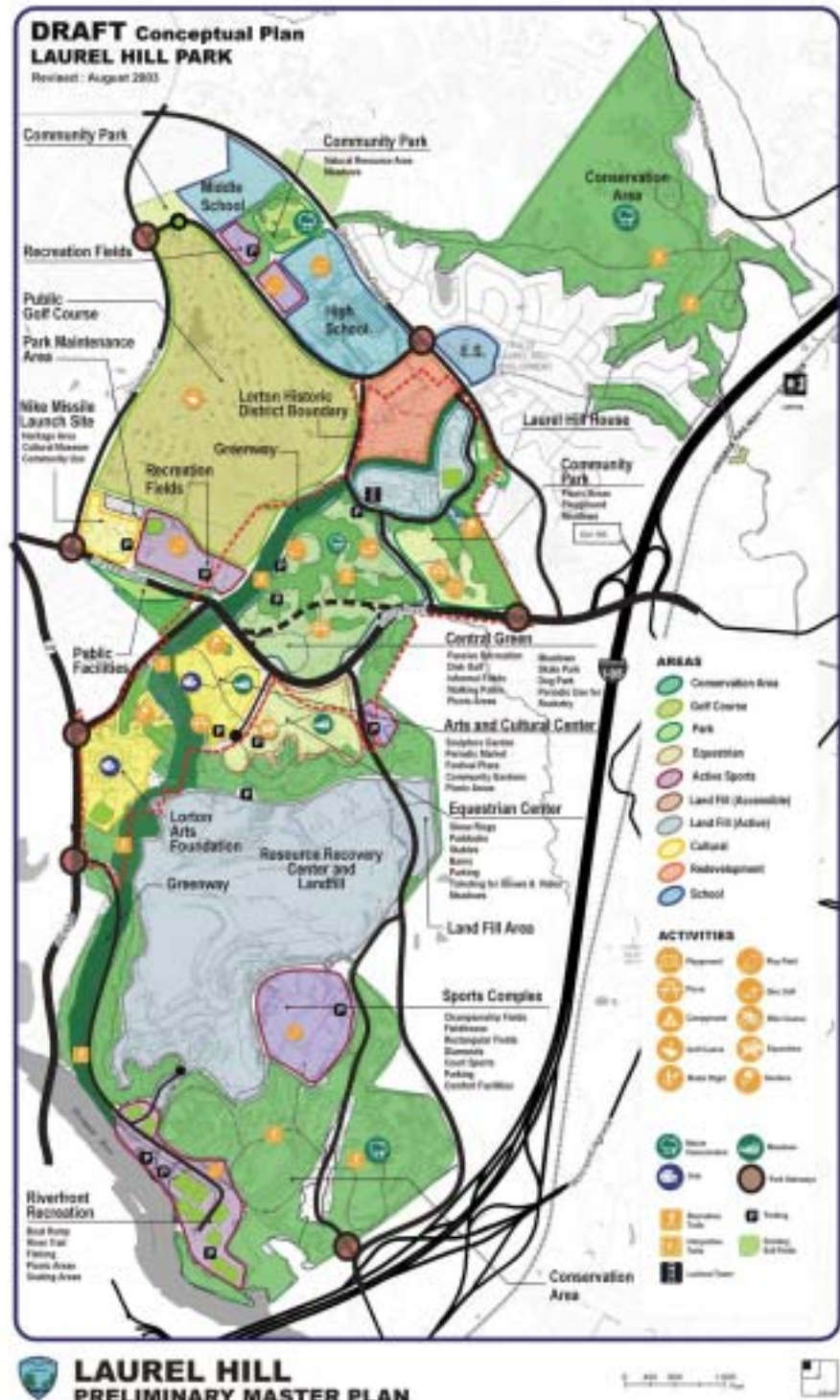
Laurel Hill

This project is the agency's most ambitious planning effort to date. The planning process required the coordination and execution of multiple concurrent activities including land acquisition, master planning, golf course design and construction of interim-use recreation fields within a very restricted schedule.

A unique aspect of the planning effort is the utilization of the Park Authority website to keep the public informed of current planning activities and upcoming events. There is an on-line discussion forum that allows citizens to read and react to each other or to ask and obtain information from the countywide planning team. Designed uniquely for this planning process, these coordinated activities and tools provide County citizens new ways to be involved in park planning as this former prison site is transformed into a park.

*Laurel Hill Online
Discussion Forum*

<http://s51b209.co.fairfax.va.us/forum/>



Laurel Hill Golf Course

Although not on the FY 2003 Work Plan, the team coordinated efforts to evaluate the feasibility of developing a public golf course at the Laurel Hill property. This work included participation in the South County High School public private partnership project, including activities related to the preparation of financing documents and negotiation of the development agreement. This project was financed, designed, permitted and under construction in less than one year and is scheduled to open in May of 2005.



Above: An elegant 9,400-square-foot clubhouse is planned as the site's centerpiece and will be one of the features that sets this course apart. It will contain an expanded pro shop, plus meeting and dining facilities. Below: The golf course is designed to protect historic viewsheds, provide competitive and enjoyable play and to enhance the landscape and natural resources it touches.

Parkland Acquisition

In FY 2003, the Park Authority added approximately 932 acres of land to the parkland inventory for a total of 22,547 acres, which equates to nearly nine percent of the land mass of Fairfax County titled to the Fairfax County Park Authority.

All of the land acquisition funds from the 1998 Park Bond were spent or encumbered on schedule prior to the availability of the 2002 Park Bond funds. The current land acquisition work plan obligates or commits all of the 2002 funds.

Planning Projects

Staff completed six master plans/master plan revisions that were adopted by the Park Board.

Development Projects

The Land Acquisition and Management Branch is responsible for acquisition of parkland and the management of existing parkland.

Land acquisition activities include the purchase of land utilizing available funding, such as the 2002 Bond and the Open Space Fund. Land acquisition also encompasses the evaluation of potential donations of land and possible land exchanges or transfers with other organizations and proffers from developers.

All of these activities contribute directly to the Park Authority's mission to "set aside public spaces for and assist citizens in the protection and enhancement of environmental values, diversity of natural habitats and cultural heritage to guarantee that these resources will be available to both present and future generations."

During the reporting period, the Park Authority added approximately 932 acres of land to the parkland inventory. While this amount is approximately 623 acres less than last year's record-setting acquisition of 1,551-acres, it still exceeded the FY 2001 amount by 113 acres. The partial transfer of the Laurel Hill property (former Lorton Prison) from the Board of Supervisors resulted in 867-acres of the 932 acres acquired this year. The Laurel Hill acquisition was the largest ever transfer of land from the Board of Supervisors to the Park Authority.



Purchases

- George A. Fath – 18 acres – This site in the Springfield District was an addition to the 72.6-acre VDOT-Popes Head assemblage, bringing the total assemblage acreage to 90.6 acres.
- Cardinal Forest – 22.8 acres – This site in the Braddock District adjoins the Accotink Stream Valley Park and will provide added protection to this stream valley area.

Donations

- James and Roseann Delaney – (.2-acre) – This donation in the Hunter Mill District is an addition to the existing Lahey Lost Valley Park.

Dedications

There were four developer dedications this fiscal year, which increased the Park Authority's holdings by approximately 20 acres. Notable among these were:

- Webb Development, LLC – 8.9 acres – This dedication in the Springfield district, proffered as part of the Fairfax Center Development, is additional stream valley adjoining existing parkland.
- Centex Homes (6.8 acres) and Pulte Homes Corporation (4.6 acres) – These dedications in the Mount Vernon District provide additional parkland in the Laurel Hill area.

Property Rental and Income

Revenue received from property rentals (residential and commercial) totaled \$192,100 in FY 2003. This represents a small increase compared to FY 2002, despite the loss of two of our rental properties (Green Spring Farm and Great Falls Nike Park) late in FY 2002. This increase is due to the Consumer Price Index increase to all rental fees. There are currently a total of 17 rental properties available; the apartment at Mason District Park was added as a rental property towards the latter part of FY 2003. The tenant occupancy rate for all units was 96 percent.

Encroachments

A Park Authority team developed and implemented a uniform formalized encroachment process that involves Park Operations, Resource Management and the Planning and Development divisions. The new procedures include a “first contact” when apparent encroachments are discovered or reported. In the past fiscal year there were 86 encroachment cases, with 68 letters sent to residents and nine encroachments that were resolved.

FY 2003 Accomplishments

Significant projects and project tasks were accomplished during FY 2003. In summary:

Bailey's Elementary School: As a result of a partnership between Eckerd Drugs, Fairfax County Public Schools and the Park Authority, improvements to the soccer field were completed, and the field was available for fall play.

Clermont Park: In accordance with a proffer agreement, Halle Enterprises finished constructing four irrigated diamond fields and an expanded parking lot, and staff completed the construction site and field amenities not required by the proffer. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held the second week in April, and the fields were made available for play that weekend.

Hutchison: Athletic field improvements that included the construction of three irrigated athletic fields and related supporting improvements were completed.

Towers Park Improvements: Design for the park improvements is complete. Lighting installation is scheduled and construction anticipated during the winter.

Lake Fairfax Core Area: A Conceptual Development Plan for the overall core area and a specific scope for redeveloping the marina area as Phase I were approved.

Mason District Park Pond Project: Completed design and construction documents for reconstructing the pond and amenities were completed. Construction of the improvements was set for fall and completed this past winter.

Stratton Woods Park: Completed design and construction documents were completed for development of the 33-acre park that includes three irrigated athletic fields, a parking lot, athletic courts and related work. Construction is underway.

Muddy Hole Farm Park: A landscape screen was installed along the park border to satisfy zoning requirements and obtain a site permit.

Wakefield Skate Park: Design was design completed and the site permit for construction of the concrete slab was obtained. Slab construction is underway.

Cultural Resource Protection Facility: A needs assessment study is being finalized for storage of archeological, historic, cultural and natural history collections, historic documents and photographic/slide collections. The study includes a determination of the requirements for the phased development of a combined facility that will serve collections storage and management needs for the next 25 years.

Hidden Pond Stream Stabilization: Design for the Phase I retrofit of the DPWES stormwater management facility has been completed and the project is entering the contract award phase. Design for Phase II renovation of the forebay serving Hidden Pond is complete.

Jefferson District Courts: Design was completed for replacement of the existing lighting system serving three tennis courts and a practice tennis court. Construction was scheduled for winter.

Playgrounds Countywide: Playground equipment was designed and installed at 16 sites.

Accotink SV Trail (King Arthur Road to Wakefield Park)-Trail and Three (3) Stream Crossings: Design is complete. Permits are being processed. Progress was made this year to obtain trail right of way on two off-site properties and within existing major utility easements. An agreement is pending with the Virginia Department of Transportation to enable the trail to pass under the cloverleaf bridges at Little River Turnpike and the Capital Beltway. The schedule calls for bidding this fall/winter with construction beginning in 2004.

Accotink SV Trail (Lake Accotink to Hunter Village Drive): Design of the trail has progressed to the point where the final plans are under review.

Danbury Forest Trail: The design for this project has been completed and the plans are approved awaiting permit release, which will occur after the easement with the Danbury Forest Home Owners Association is secured.

Difficult Run SV Trail: Design for the trail and stream crossings started this year and the schematic plans are complete. The schematic plans are the basis of acquiring right of way, which also started this year. The schedule calls for design and permits through spring 2004, bidding in summer and construction fall/winter 2004.

Hidden Pond Trail and Bridge: Design was completed and the project was bid. The construction contract was awarded and work has begun.

Projects Jointly Managed with Department of Public Works & Environmental Services

Green Springs Gardens Entrance Road: Design was completed, the site permit obtained and construction started. Construction is approximately 90 percent complete.

Lake Accotink Dredging and Dam Repair: One considered construction scenario is hydraulic dredging of the lake and discharging the sediment via temporary pipeline located within Norfolk and Southerner's right-of-way at a nearby industrial site owned by Virginia Concrete. Necessary permits have been obtained and the bid documents have been forwarded to the Construction Management Division of DPWES.

Cub Run RECenter: Design was completed in the fall and immediately following the project was bid. Notice to proceed with construction was issued to the contractor in March. Construction is progressing at a rapid pace and is scheduled to be complete in September 2004.

Opportunity Projects

The Fairfax County Park Authority is often presented with opportunities to participate in projects that are supportive of, but not planned for as part of the agency's Capital Improvement Program. The following projects are examples of opportunities that the Park Authority were able to participate in during Fiscal Year 2003.

Hunter Assemblage: This newly acquired tract is the largest contiguous park in Fairfax County. With over 1,740-acres of undeveloped, environmentally sensitive land, in an area of the County with diverse and unmet needs, Park Authority's role as both stewards of the land and provider of facilities will most certainly be tested. The first test came in FY 2003 with a controversial proposal from DC United for the development of Quinn Farm Park. When asked to accomplish the rezoning activities necessary to permit the public/private partnership, the Park Authority put together a team from outside departments including the Department of Planning and Zoning and the Office of the County Attorney. The team



Cub Run RECenter, a 65,000-square-foot facility costing \$18.5 million, includes a 25-yard by 25-meter swimming pool, 4,860-square-foot leisure entertainment pool, 9,600-square-foot fitness center (largest in the park system), two multipurpose rooms and a party room. It is scheduled to open this fall.



Planners, naturalists and even archaeologists have been to the Hunter-Hacor site making certain that upcoming planning efforts will be based on up-to-date site information about native plant species, any historical or natural resources to be protected, and the actual site contours and boundaries.

advanced a complex series of planning activities including a General Management Plan/Conceptual Development Plan, Zoning Ordinance Amendment, Special Exception Plat and 2232 Application. Ultimately, private funding for the project did not materialize, but the Park Authority met its commitments for the zoning activities and advanced an environmentally responsible plan for future development of Quinn Farm Park.

Lewinsville Park Improvements: In May 2002, the Park Authority was asked to coordinate a proposed development partnership with McLean Youth Soccer and Marymount University. The concept was to permit the installation of athletic field lights and synthetic turf on an existing field at Lewinsville Park. The improvements would be paid for by the private partners. Park Authority staff coordinated a public hearing to determine the need and community impact associated with the addition of lights. They negotiated an agreement with the private partners that preserved a substantial public benefit from the improvements and worked closely with the Park Authority Board to address and find ways to accommodate their concerns. During FY 2003, the partnership produced the first public synthetic turf field in Fairfax County and yielded approximately \$700,000 in improvements at no cost to the public.



Burke Lake Mini Golf is the agency's first design-build project approved by the state. This project was built faster and at a reduced cost to taxpayers by utilizing this process, which streamlines design, bidding, permitting and construction. From start to finish, the mini golf became a reality in 15 months.



Citizens love our trails. A walk in the woods continues to be among the most popular activities that residents can enjoy. Fiscal Year 2003 brought new signage to many trails, the completion of more trails and a renewed commitment to complete the Cross County Trail in 2005.

Burke Lake Miniature Golf: In an effort to advance revenue-generating projects for the agency, the Park Authority staff applied for and received permission at the state level to accomplish the Burke Lake Miniature Golf Course project on a design-build basis. This was the first such application made by any department of Fairfax County government and required significant inter-departmental coordination. In FY 2003, Park Authority staff was successful at implementing this \$400,000 project beginning with a request for proposal in May 2002 and ending with substantial completion in September 2003. This 15-month total project duration included two months of unanticipated weather delays during construction.

Master Planning

Park master planning is the art and science of developing conceptual land use plans for specific sites. The Park Authority embrace the active community involvement with this process, the goal being community 'ownership' of the completed plan. This goal is met through community meetings, workshops, design charettes, task forces, ad hoc committees, information sessions, stakeholder interviews, web-based communication and multiple-language press releases. The Planning Team managed a workload of 18 active master plan projects this year. Twelve plans were initiated and six were completed and adopted by the Park Board.

Trails Planning & Promotion

The countywide citizen survey for the Park and Recreation Needs Assessment project confirmed that trail use is the most popular form of recreation in Fairfax County. Almost 50 percent of county citizens report using trails in the past year. Conception and development of the 35-mile

Cross County Trail (CCT) is one means of addressing this need and reaching a large portion of the county's population. This trail spine will eventually stretch from the Potomac River at Great Falls Park to Laurel Hill and continue with a new four-mile extension to the Occoquan River making it truly an "across-the-county" trail. This year volunteers repaired or extended several sections. The Park Authority needs approximately six to eight more

links of less than two miles to complete the entire public right-of-way. Just as importantly, five of the ten sections now have completed brochures with maps of the route. A Virginia Recreation Trails grant of \$28,000 was obtained for trail signage.

The 2nd annual Trail Caucus was conceived and held with double the participation of last year. The Park Authority coordinated and managed events on National Trails Day focusing on the Laurel Hill portion of the CCT. Agency representation was also provided on the Non-Motorized Transportation Committee which successfully completed a new Countywide Trail Plan and gained Planning Commission approval to adopt it into the County Comprehensive Plan. Three new trails brochures were published for Sugarland Run, Cub Run, and Rocky Run stream valley trails.

Approximately one mile of new trail was developed and dedicated to the Park Authority in the Difficult Run Stream Valley and its headwaters. The three contributing projects were at Brown's Mill Forest, Lincoln at Fairfax Corner and Parkside. Parkside also includes a playground, gazebo and several picnic tables. The Warren B. Johnson trail in Mount Vernon District was dedicated by signing a portion of existing trail in honor of a long-time trail advocate.

Long Range Planning/Needs Assessment

Long range planning for the park and recreation needs of the citizens of Fairfax County continues to be a core activity. The current strategy, consuming most of the agency's long range planning resources, is the creation of new Park and Recreation Needs Assessment recommendation. The prior study was completed in 1993 and updated in 1996. The new effort, scheduled to be completed in early 2004, not only updates all of the related data and trends, but has the ambitious goal of creating a 10-year capital improvement program "Action Plan" that will be a blueprint for future park bond referenda and annual capital work plans.

The Park and Recreation Needs Assessment project completed all the research in Phase I and much of the analysis in Phase II required to respond to the agency Strategic Plan and prepare for a 2004 Park Bond Referendum. Work completed includes the citizen demand survey, the peer agency benchmark survey, a draft resource management best practices study and the public/private recreation facilities inventory. Phase II work, which is nearly complete, includes recreation standards, FCPA contribution goals, gap analysis service maps and preliminary capital improvement program formats. We initiated discussion with the Department of Planning and Zoning to amend the County Comprehensive Policy Plan and the Area Plans. "Visioning" meetings with the consultants kept the focus on the long term planning aspects of the project.

Financial Planning

The financial support function of the branch worked closely with the County bond team and served as a representative for the Park Authority bond team in relation to the fall 2002 Park Bond program. In conjunction with the Public Information Officer of the Park Authority, we were able to see the passage of the bond program in the amount of \$20 million for the continuation of an aggressive land acquisition program in the amount of \$15 million as well as the supplementing of development projects to be undertaken by the division in the amount of \$5 million.

The current fiscal year will include the preparation for the scheduled fall 2004 Park Bond Referendum. In order to prepare for this important event, the branch will work with the Park Board and staff to refine long term capital needs that will translate into a Capital Improvement Program for the next ten years. This important undertaking, in conjunction with the completion of the Needs Assessment by Park Planning, will help to both chart the course of the Park Authority's financial planning for the next ten years as well as define the parameters of the growing need for maintenance and renovation of existing facilities.

Park Services Division

The Park Services Division is dedicated to serving the leisure needs of County residents by managing recreational facilities, programs and parks, and operating Revenue Fund facilities and programs on a financially self-sustaining basis. The division provides agency support in the areas of market planning and research; graphic, photographic, video and media production; special populations and accessibility issues; and the specialized areas of turf grass, irrigation and integrated pest management.

Leisure & Wellness Branch

Leisure & Wellness has the responsibility to plan, manage and operate the agency's eight RECenters and county-wide program and service offerings so that they are financially self-sufficient. Primary functions include site operations, programming, fitness and wellness, and inclusion and ADA.

Administration

Financial Summary

Financially, revenue performance was generally good in the Revenue Fund, exceeding original revenue projections by \$154,729 or 1.11 percent. Compared to Fiscal Year 2002, revenue grew \$481,146 or 3.54 percent. Net revenue was \$924,412 for a cost recovery of 107.02 percent. Expenses grew faster than revenue over Fiscal Year 2002, increasing by \$841,851 or 6.83 percent. In addition, expenses exceeded budget by \$239,854 or 1.86 percent.

- Pass sales revenue was up by \$314,405 or 8.42 percent
- Daily admissions revenue was down \$(18,668) or (0.97) percent
- Program revenue was up \$237,520 or 3.78 percent
- Rental revenue was down \$(23,500) or (1.79) percent

Pass sale growth was very strong during the fiscal year. Pass sale growth is attributed to the pilot program for "Exercise Your Options" (XYO) at Audrey Moore RECenter where selected exercise classes were bundled as a pass benefit. This program will be expanded during 2004.

Operations Section

The Operations Section implemented new initiatives to address aging facilities and high level of usage in the RECenters. A full-time painter began work on updating areas throughout the RECenters, and sites are being held to stricter cleanliness standards. The division continued renovations including racquetball renovations at South Run and Providence, a former dance room converted to a Pilates studio at Providence RECenter and a racquetball court conversion to a spin studio at Audrey Moore RECenter.

Significant renovations were completed on Providence and Spring Hill RECenters this year including:

Providence RECenter was closed for three months for complete locker room renovations, sauna renovations, lifeguard office expansion, addition of deep water steps in the pool, pool filter system replacement, a pool white coat, new natatorium bleachers and replacement of the two boilers.

Spring Hill renovations were completed with minimal disruption of service. An unused area of the building was renovated and made into two multi-purpose/dance rooms, the Programming Office was moved to the front of the building to improve customer service and the fitness room was expanded.

Program Section

The Program Section encompasses classes (excluding fitness, alternative exercise and aquatics), camps, tours, youth services, events and volunteer activities. FY 2003 was an extraordinary year of challenges.

RECenter Classes

Class programs were offered at all eight RECenters in FY 2003. Total registrations reached 67,886. Aquatic programs account for almost half of class program gross revenue. Children's Corner (Tot) classes and exercise and fitness classes combined represent an additional 31 percent of class revenue. All remaining class programs account for 22 percent of gross revenue. Revenues exceeded \$4.4 million.

Special Events and Volunteer Programs

The Special Events and Volunteer section continued its efforts to expand countywide cultural and volunteer programs through new partnerships to bring cultural programs to areas not currently served or to enhance the quality of services presently offered at park sites.

A new partnership was formed between the Park Authority and the Fairfax County Department of Cable Communication and Consumer Protection for the summer 2002 concert series to videotape the Summer Concert Series on Channel 16 and televise the programs through the year.

Fiscal Year 2003 was the year of inclusion. A multicultural chord was introduced to the concert series to reflect the county's growing diversity. Today, more than 33% of Fairfax County's population is comprised of racial and ethnic minorities, a three-fold increase from just 15 years ago. The Summer Concert series welcomes these newcomers to parks with the familiar music and dance of their native lands and introduces long-time county residents to the rich cultural heritage that their new neighbors bring to Fairfax County.

The line-up for the Park Authority's six performance series underlined and reinforced the inclusive nature of parks. Of the 170 performances, more than a third celebrate diversity. These culturally diverse concert series include Mariachi Los Amigos, Argentinean blues guitarist Migel Botafogo, Yarawi Musical Art of the Andes, the Irish Breakfast Band, the Washington Balalaika Society, Scottish fiddler Bonnie Rideout, the traditional Latin dance tunes of Sin Miedo, the pan-Celtic music of IONA, Korean Dance and Music, Edwin Ortiz Orquesta La Romana, Pan Masters Steel Orchestra, Alte Kameraden German Band, Latin-Caribbean Jaleo, Tohoko Koto Society, Russikye Musikanti, Sin Frontera, Alice McGill's songs and tales from African-American folklore, Alexandria Klezmet's klezmer music of Eastern Europe, Sol Y Rumba and Hamala Diabate Manding Ensemble playing Manding music from Griot culture of Mali, West Africa.

Sponsorships

During FY 03 sponsorship revenue increased by 35 percent from previous years. A total of \$245,829 in cash and in-kind contributions was received from over 50 funding partners. Total cash contribution topped \$74,254 for an



Our parks come alive both during the week and on the weekends with six performance series taking place throughout the summer. Programs were as varied as the residents who call Fairfax County home with an emphasis placed on providing multicultural experiences to reflect the various cultures of the County.

increase of 30 percent when compared to the previous year. PACT (Parks And Community Together), which provides summer camp scholarships for homeless children, had its most successful year with a total of \$21,000 in donations from local corporations and foundations. Our fund raising efforts won the support of America Online, the DC Blues Society, the Potomac River Jazz Club, the Virginia Commission for the Arts, WBIG Radio Station, TRW, the Washington Post, Target Stores and many other contributors.

Trips and Tours

The tours program provides a wide variety of one-day and overnight trips for patrons to destinations up and down the East Coast. In FY 2003, 86 day trips were offered with 1,490 persons attending. Over three years, the Trips and Tours program has progressed from a net loss of \$60,000 in FY 2001 to near break-even in FY 2002 to a net profit last year.



These children are enjoying the sights, sounds and smells of Kidwell Farm at Frying Pan Park. Kids can meet the many animals, learn about life on a 1930's farm and find out when baby animals arrive. The farm is home to a variety of critters including horses, pigs, sheep, cows, turkeys and goats.



Rec-PAC campers have a great time with a parachute and enjoy a wide variety of activities everyday. Rec-PAC is a low cost summer program offering six, one week recreation programs for children in grades one through six. Nearly 60 sites were host to the program this past year.

Youth Services Section

The Youth Services area is responsible for the organization and administration of youth programs for Park Services and all licensed programs in the Resource Management Division. In addition to the spring break and summer camp programs, staff is directly involved with the preschool program at Frying Pan Park, the overall operation of the Kid's Play Preschool programs at Lee and Spring Hill, and the Lee District Playgroup program. These programs are subject to licensure by the Virginia Department of Social Services. The Youth Services section is the liaison between the licensing agents and the facilities that house these programs and also acts as liaison between FCPA and other county agencies including Child Protective Services, Office for Children, DHD, Public Schools, Fire Department and the Department of Community and Recreation Services.

In FY 2003 Youth Services acquired the planning, administration and management of the summer Rec-PAC program, most school-based camps, such as soccer, basketball, field hockey and tennis, and contractor-provided camps, such as dance, fencing, gymnastics, baseball, and sailing

Total registration for all summer camp programs, including Rec-PAC, for FY 2003 reached 32,580, a more than three-fold increase in program size. An addition of 81 new community-based program locations were introduced to the summer camp program.

In FY 2003, Youth Services offered 666 sports and activity camp sessions serving 13,275 children at RECenters, parks, school and vendor locations, and increase of 14 percent from the previous year. An extra week of camp was added at several sites in June in response to the shortening of the school year. The extra week of camp assisted many families left without childcare options.

Rec-PAC (Pretty Awesome Children) is a low-cost summer recreation program offering six, one-week recreation programs for children in grades one through six. Designed to provide quality, affordable leisure activities especially for families on limited incomes, Rec-PAC provides a sliding scale of fees based on family income. Approximately 30 percent of children in Rec-PAC are from families with incomes less than \$40,000. Rec-PAC is the primary source of supervised summer activities for an estimated 65 percent of children

registered in the program. Each year Rec-PAC offers seven locations designated as inclusion sites, designed to allow children with disabilities to participate alongside children without disabilities in large-group settings. While all Rec-PAC sites accommodate children with disabilities, inclusion sites provide a one-to-eight staff ratio with physical support and staff with additional training in therapeutic recreation.

Several new initiatives were begun in FY 2003:

- Rec-PAC expanded to include programs at 59 elementary school locations, a nine percent increase in number of locations from the previous year.
- Registration, previously handled manually, was converted to member-based registration under Parknet.
- In response to requests from local schools, Rec-PAC piloted shifted-hour programs at six sites to accommodate children enrolled in morning summer school.
- Several new avenues were developed to increase awareness and access to Rec-PAC programs including automated e-mail response, a 24-hour information hotline and a new web site with comprehensive information about the program, downloadable forms and online registration.

Rec-PAC fills a vital role in the Park Authority's youth summer programs and overall mission. It is the only Park Authority program that never fills up, offers advance or walk-in registration and is open to any eligible child regardless of ability to pay.

Youth Services has also developed the PACT (Parks And Community Together), program to help send homeless shelter children to camps. For the summer of 2003, the PACT program had its most successful year in terms of sponsorship contribution with total a of \$21,000 in donations up from \$10,700 for the summer of 2002. As a result, 30 homeless children from four local shelters attended summer camps

Aquatics Section

Aquatic operations spent a great deal of time and energy to ensure the safe operation of the agency's pools and spas. While it's not possible to count the number of accidents prevented by the aquatic staff, and there were many, instances where care was provided were recorded. In 2003 lifeguards provided first aid care to over 500 customers, performed 125 rescues and played a key role in saving the lives of three customers.

Inclusion and ADA Section

This section continues to update the Americans with Disabilities Act Transition Plan. Trails have been added to the original scope. Thirty-four miles of the Cross County trail were assessed and a manual developed for trails capturing ADA technical requirements. This manual is now utilized in assessment of current trails as well as in the design of new trails. The section has been requested to assist with the County Executive's initiative called Smart Design. This task force is looking at universal design concepts and potential applications to county best practices in new facilities and renovations. Program access demands expanded to a record number this year as well as the number of leisure coaches needed to assimilate participants into regular programs. Physical access involvement increased dramatically in collaboration with the Planning and Development Division in the design and development of multiple projects (both new and renovations), including Clemyjontri Park, Stratton Woods Park, Burke Lake Mini-Golf, Longbranch Trail, McLean Central Park, Oak Marr/Providence pool steps, Cub Run RECenter, Burke Lake Boating Dock, and numerous playgrounds.



Adapted aquatics is a nationally recognized program that provides exercise opportunities for individuals with a variety of disabilities. The Park Authority continues to work towards the creation of other inclusive programs and accessible facilities.

Program expansion opportunities for persons with disabilities grew slowly but surely. The first Paralympic swim clinic was offered this year. In addition, two Paralympic soccer clinics were provided as well as an eight-week class for skill development. Adapted Aquatics program expansion reflected a 25% increase in the number of participants in the Fibromyalgia water exercise class. The Adapted Aquatics specialist also spearheaded new RECenter contracts for both land and water based activities with various disability organizations.

Spring Hill

- Spring Hill RECenter's renovation of an unfinished room was completed two months early. The room will be used for classes that were moved to permit expansion of the fitness area.
- The RECenters hosted 13 all-night graduation parties for the Fairfax County Public Schools and one for Paul IV High School.
- Spring Hill held an Open House/Fitness Expo in June in celebration of their 15-year anniversary.

Audrey Moore

- The Aquatic Section presented "A Day of Aqua Fitness" at Audrey Moore RECenter to provide credits needed to maintain aqua-fitness instructor certifications. There were 58 participants.
- One hundred citizens showed up from churches, temples, civic associations, scout groups and schools to help clean up the park and creek. The volunteers filled two and a half dumpsters with trash from the stream valley extending from Wakefield down to Old Keene Mill Road.



The rain and snow kept golfers indoors, but when the sun came out it was time to get into the swing of things. The Park Authority continued to support junior golfing, provided outreach to female golfers and presented several beginning golf clinics.

Cub Run

- Construction began in March 2003, and early progress was good despite wet weather.

Providence

- Providence RECenter's After Hours Teen Concerts continue to be a big success with six shows and an annual attendance of 2,120.

Golf Enterprises

Weather was the biggest factor impacting golf facilities during FY 2003. During this operating year course closings hit a record number due to rain and snow. Total closures increased by 14 percent over FY 2002 resulting in a reduction of 20 percent in rounds played. Other factors contributing to the poor performance were the continued economic slump and sniper activities.

Despite the lingering poor weather, there were a number of positive developments within Golf Enterprises during the 2003 fiscal year. The refinement and standardization of the agency's junior golf program was a major service enhancement. Other efforts to introduce more people to the game of golf included the continued support of the high school golf program, expansion into female high school golf teams, the Girls Love Golf Programs and a variety of beginner golf clinics.

The partial dredging of the North Lake at Twin Lakes was one enhancement that was realized. Taking advantage of the summer drought conditions, site staff and members of the Park Operations Mobile Crew increased future irrigation storage capacity by dredging the fully exposed lake. Dredged material was dried and transported on site to nine specified locations to be used as the base of forward tees. These teeing areas were opened for play during the last month of fiscal year 2003, vastly improving the enjoyment and scores of visitors to the Lakes Course.

Highlights

- All courses provided free golf to the Fairfax County Public Schools for their golf teams, equating to greens fees over \$35,000.
- Golf Enterprises continued to work with the Virginia Society of Ornithology to have all courses participate in a special bird survey.
- The Fairfax County Park Authority Junior Golf Program was unveiled allowing juniors full access and benefits to all six of our golf course facilities.
- A quarterly newsletter, Par for the Course, was launched.

Burke Lake

- The Junior Golf Program continued to attract a large and active group of young people for clinics, lessons, camps and tournaments.
- The Capital City Golf School continued to provide a lesson program with extensive offerings.

Greendale

- The Youth Golf Initiative completed its third year of operation at Greendale Golf Course. This program offers golf instruction, equipment, transportation and course access to at-risk youth in the Route 1 corridor area south of Alexandria. The program was funded in part through a grant from the United States Golf Association Foundation in partnership with the Department of Family Services.

Jefferson District

- Hosted an after-work league for the employees of the Exxon/Mobil Corporation.
- Jefferson continued to host many community-based tennis leagues including the Golden Racquets and high school tennis matches and tournaments.

Oak Marr Golf

- Every Body Golf School continued to provide high quality golf instruction for all levels of players.

Pinecrest

- Pinecrest hosted the Annandale Business Community Golf Tournament working closely with the local Korean community.
- The Spring Break junior golf camps were extended from the original three-day camps to five-day camps.

Twin Lakes

- Twin Lakes hosted the 13th Annual Combo Classic Golf Tournament drawing 56 players, many with disabilities. Everyone had a great time and enjoyed playing both courses.
- Golfing activities included the Junior/Parent Spring Tournament in May with 60 participants and the After School Junior Tournament in May with 39 participants.
- United States Golf Association's Women's Amateur Public Links Qualifier held at Twin Lakes sent three competitors on to the National Tournament.
- Hosted the Multiple Sclerosis Longest Day of Golf Benefit.

Lakefront Parks

Poor weather, as well as regional criminal activity, significantly impacted operations at the lakefront parks causing park visitation to be down compared with previous years. Due to weather-related delays during the construction of the Burke Lake mini-golf course, the facility was not completed until September 2003, which impacted expected revenues.

Planning for the dredging of Lake Accotink continued as public meetings were held to keep stakeholders apprised of the timing and process of the project. Lake Accotink staff continued to expand service offerings while also embarking on a major effort to develop a site interpretive program that highlights the historical and cultural heritage of the park. A new video documentary and displays of historical and natural artifacts served as the cornerstone of the program.

Recognizing an opportunity to expand services, staff initiated year-round camping at Lake Fairfax during FY 2003. Although experiencing frequent snow storms, this measure proved popular with campers and has established Lake Fairfax as a complete camping facility for future years.

Other Highlights

Burke Lake

- Hosted over 20 high school cross country races were held including the Monroe Parker Invitational with over 600 runners as well as the district and regional championships.
- The Nature Secrets day camp was held during the months of June, July and August. Conducted by Katydid Inc., over 580 children enjoyed nature programming and exploration at Burke Lake Park.
- Springfield's Children's Fest was held at Burke Lake Park, co-sponsored by the Springfield Board of Supervisor's office. Over 300 children and family members enjoyed the day's festivities.
- The Virginia Blue Bird Society built and installed numerous blue bird houses throughout the park.
- Park benches were built and installed by an Eagle Scout in the campground and along the lake trail.

Lake Accotink

- Summer camp offerings were diversified and expanded to include dog care camp, watershed exploration camp and tennis camp while maintaining previous partnerships with contracted camps.
- The park was awarded a \$5,000 grant from Fairfax County Water Authority to produce a workshop and an educational brochure to promote stewardship of the Accotink watershed.
- Lake Accotink continued to partner with the School-Aged Child Care Program by hosting their annual Earth Day celebration, fun fairs, and after-school programs for staff training and recognition.
- The park also continued to partner with L.L. Bean on the Outdoor Adventure series. Lake Accotink hosted a trails meeting with representatives of the mountain bike community to discuss the status of the plan to address trail management at the site.
- Lake Accotink Park held its first Spring Break camp with 40 children participating.
- A Night Critters Lake Walk expanded the park's interpretive programming.
- Staff created and produced "Witness to History," a video documentary about the history of Lake Accotink Park and the surrounding area. The video is an important part of the park's new interpretive program.
- Partnered with Eagle Scouts to construct eight new informational kiosks at trailheads or junctions.
- Initiated application and garnered support of the History Commission and financial support from civic associations and private citizens for a new historic marker to be placed by the trestle which crosses Accotink Creek. The marker denotes the significance of the railroad trestle during the Civil War.

Lake Fairfax

- Lake Fairfax held Christmas in July in cooperation with Oldies 100/Big 100. Approximately 4,000 attended.
- Haunted House was held for four nights with 1,000 in attendance.
- Hudson Trail Outfitters held a Boat Demo day in May with 200 to 250 participating.
- The Reston YMCA donated a 40' x 60' canopy to the park. The YMCA utilized the new canopy area weekdays for day camp programming.
- The Potomac Velo Club's Cyclocross Races were hosted by Lake Fairfax in October and December 2002, with 150 to 200 participants and over 200 spectators for a total of three events.



Class registration was never easier with five ways to sign up. Parktakes online can take information over the web and give up-to-the-minute registration information. Customers can also fax their forms in, call and speak to one of the operators, use the automated phone system or simply walk in and sign up.



Providence RECenter offers wonderful options for exercise. In fact, RECcenters now have the XYO program which allows pass holders to go to classes without pre-registration. It's another benefit for passholders and a great way to try out new exercise options before committing to them.



With state of the art Cybex equipment and guidance from FitLinxx, the virtual training partner, the fitness rooms at neighborhood RECcenters have everything customers need to give themselves a lift towards better health. Check with the fitness coordinator at the RECcenters for information on how to get started.

Parktakes

In keeping with diversity initiatives and strategic plan goals of outreach to communities not traditionally served, general information in Spanish on park programs and services became a part of the regular features in *Parktakes*. Beginning with the winter FY 2004 issue, the welcoming message was added in Vietnamese, Korean and Farsi. For the last issue of FY 2003, subscribers numbered 162,772, an increase of five percent from the previous year's final issue. And for the first time, total circulation topped 200,000, strengthening *Parktakes'* position as Fairfax County's most widely read magazine. Advertising sales for the quarterly magazine topped \$160,294.

Parktakes Online, the agency's internet class registration and catalog search function, was in place for the entire fiscal year for the first time. With each passing quarter, internet registration increases in popularity and makes registration more efficient for the public and for staff. In the last quarter of the year, 34 percent of registrations were internet based.

There are now five ways to register (internet, automated phone line, operator, mail/fax and walk-in). Total volume of registration requests (including registrations, cancels, waitlist, transfers) was 141,592, up more than 18,000 over last year. Some of the growth was due to the implementation of changes to the RecPAC program – for the summer 2003 program, a new early registration discount program and access to registration via the internet prompted many to pre-register earlier than in previous years.

Central operators received at least 52,000 phone calls this year, or an average of about 30 calls for every single hour of operation. In addition to handling phone-in and mail/fax registrations, operators also spent significant time processing new account requests, trouble-shooting problem accounts and answering general program questions.

The class scholarship donations helped offset the cost of providing class fee waivers as 3,960 donations for a total of \$23,645 were received. The value of the donations was 40 percent higher than in FY 2002 (\$16,777) and more than half of the dollars donated were given via the internet.

Marketing Research & Planning

Support of various agency and division work team projects dominated much of the Marketing Research and Planning workload in FY 2003.

Representative examples included planning teams for the agency needs assessment, Lake Fairfax core facilities, Laurel Hill Golf and Laurel Hill Park planning and the West County RECenter/Field House.

Laurel Hill planning efforts included completion of two feasibility studies – one for the Laurel Hill golf course and one for a potential new equestrian facility.

Resource Management Division

The mission of the Resource Management Division is to identify, preserve and interpret the cultural, natural and horticultural resources of Fairfax County and the Fairfax County Park Authority. This division encourages the enjoyment and understanding of these resources by citizens and provides leadership in protecting and maintaining the county's rich heritage.

Resource Management Division sites offer tours, public programs, special events, school and scout programs, exhibits, store sales and many other activities. Facilities include five nature centers, two historic site museums, a working 1930's replica farm, a horticultural center and nine historic property rental sites.

Volunteer staff provides tens of thousands of service hours annually to support interpretation, gardening, research, resource management, facility operations and other functions. Eight "friends" organizations support specific sites with monetary contributions, volunteer service and co-sponsored events.

Resource management staff participates in agency development planning teams manages wildlife conflict resolution issues, provides natural/cultural resource management consultation for the agency, develops inventories and plans to implement Park Authority Board policies, completes archival and archaeological research, and represents the Park Authority on various countywide committees.

Historic artifact and archaeology collections staff manages Park Authority collections of historic objects, documents and archival materials relating to the historic sites and Fairfax County history, conducts research for interpretive programs and develops exhibits. The historic artifact collections number more than 5,400 objects valued at over \$1 million. The archaeological collections number more than 70,000 objects and the County archaeological collections under Park Authority care number more than 2.8 million objects.

The Resource Management Division has the lead role in developing and implementing the agency's historic preservation policy and ensuring that appropriate preservation practices are maintained in the development of cultural resource sites. Additionally, the division develops the scopes for annual restorative and capital maintenance projects applicable to historic structures.



*Protecting nature is an important element to the park system. Fairfax County parks are the home to an abundance of beautiful plant species that add beautiful colors, scents and biological diversity. This is a common orange day lily (*Hemerocallis fulva*), a native of east Asia and a very popular local flower.*



Parks are full of history too. The pitcher, cake mold and bean pot with lid are examples of redware pottery from the Lahey collection. These items, probably made in the late 19th century, are household items molded from low-fired earthenware clay and decorated with slip, lead and tin glazes.



The Park Authority attempts to balance active and passive uses of the parks. Passive uses can include leisurely strolls or the observation of nature. It's not difficult to find a picturesque spot along stream valleys and trails, as evidenced by this waterfall can be found at Scott's Run Nature Preserve in McLean.



A staff member assists while this young lady enjoys a holiday shopping spree at Colvin Run Mill. Each year, historic sites plan special holiday shopping events that allow youngsters to search for just the right gift without their parents at their side. Gifts found at the historical sites are both unique and charming.



With financing from the Ellanor C. Lawrence Trust Fund, an outdoor education pavilion took shape. Staff at the site, located in Chantilly, welcome this expansion, which enhances educational opportunities for the many youngsters who come to visit the park and enjoy interpretive programs.



This deer seems hidden in the woods, but its impact is felt more widely. Deer management efforts in numerous parks are aimed at keeping the herd numbers reasonable and the herds healthy, protecting natural resources from over browsing and addressing the issue of traffic collisions between these animals and local drivers.

Protecting Our Natural Resources

The new agency Natural Resource Management Plan, which represents the most comprehensive approach to date to natural resource management and protection in park acquisition, planning, development and maintenance, was started in FY 2003. The plan went through an extensive review process by the public and those agencies and groups who are involved with protecting the county's natural resources. The plan has received very favorable reviews and Board approval in early 2004.

The Natural Resource Management section began a comprehensive identification and evaluation of storm water management ponds located on parklands with the intent of having a multi-year pond management plan completed in 2004. This program is part of an expanding commitment by the agency in its land and resource stewardship mission based responsibilities.

Colvin Run Mill

- At long last, Colvin Run Mill restoration work on the waterwheel and flume was completed and the waterwheel was rededicated.
- Heritage Day Camp set new records for attendance and revenue
- The Mill celebrated the 15th anniversary of Black History Month.
- New, highly successful programs including American Girl Teas, Cub Scout programs and Folk Arts programs were well received by park visitors.

There were numerous noteworthy accomplishments by Colvin Run Mill staff including the election of assistant manager Ann Korzeniewski as co-president of the Small Museum Association, the appointment of manager Mike Henry to the Great Falls Historical Society Board of Directors and the certification of programmer Mary Allen by the National Association of Interpreters.

Ellanor C. Lawrence Park

- Park staff was instrumental in developing and updating agency rules and regulations and conducted agency-wide and interagency orientations and trainings.
- Staff contributed to the development of a new General Management Plan and field surveys for new parklands at the Hunter-Hacor assemblage.
- Site plans were developed for use in emergency situations.
- ECLP staff contributed to the development of the agency's Natural Resource Management Plan.
- Significant advancements were made in site forest management projects through staff work, commercial services, Urban Forestry vegetative surveys and Americorps projects.

- Active deer studies and population reduction continues.
- ECLP is working with park neighbors to reduce encroachments on parkland.
- New interpretive signs were developed and installed at Walney's historic outbuildings.

Frying Pan Park

Frying Pan Park dealt with a wide variety of situations and came through with some wonderful accomplishments for the fiscal year.

- Record numbers of visitors viewed the animals, school groups enjoyed interpretive programs and hayrides and equestrian users rode in both indoor and outdoor facilities.
- The farm also produced many offspring. A calf, twin lambs and a litter of piglets were born one night during a winter storm. The summer brought a rare event when a set of twin Angus calves were born in July.
- The completion of the Middleton Barn project involved taking down a historic barn from one of Fairfax County's most prominent farms and reconstructing it at Frying Pan Park. This building is housing dairy animals and antique farm equipment.
- The Presidential turkeys arrived on a cold windy day in November. This event was very popular with visitors and staff. Of particular interest to the media was the arrival of "Katie," the first female turkey pardoned by the president.
- Throughout the year, equestrian events at Frying Pan Park grew in popularity. This successful re-emergence of one of our traditional past times is making Frying Pan Park a notable stop in the equestrian community. It is creating a need for future growth and facility renovation.
- Two events that were successful were the week long Farm Camp where the farmers taught and the newly combined Fairfax County 4-H Fair and Frying Pan Park Farm Show in August of 2003. This weekend event brought 10,000 visitors.

Green Spring Gardens

- The historic house and landscape at Green Spring was added to the National Register of Historic Places and the Virginia Historic Landmarks Register
- At its November board meeting, Friends of Green Spring Gardens Park approved its first \$100,000 budget. Thornton Burnet, Jr. was elected the new president of FROGS.
- Green Spring co-sponsored the 2003 Youth Gardening Symposium with the American Horticultural Society.
- Green Spring piloted a new children's garden at South Run RECenter.



Frying Pan Park offers a rare glimpse into Fairfax County's past as an agrarian area. These work horses help staff and volunteers till the fields or pull wagons. Riding in the wagon is one of the most popular activities the park offers. Visitors also enjoy the many barnyard animals that live at this working farm, which is located in urban Herndon.



Imagine a place where wild things grow in abundance. Imagine a place where horticulturists can demonstrate how to grow these exotic or native plants as well. Green Spring Gardens Park, located in Alexandria, is a wonderful resource for those who like to dig in the dirt or simply enjoy the beauty of the garden. The park hosts numerous events and programs throughout the year that educate about the various aspects related to gardening and horticulture.

- The glasshouse was re-skinned and renovated, opening to the public in the fall. Renovation was a collaboration between the Park Authority and the Friends of Green Spring.
- Green Spring's new entrance road opened to traffic on Fall Garden Day in September.
- Despite a roof failure due to the blizzard of 2003, staff proceeded with programs without a single cancellation. Planning and Development staff, working with Risk Management, proceeded with roof repairs due to be completed in January 2004.
- Green Spring hosted nationally known authors, James Van Sweden and P. Allen Smith, for lectures and book signings.
- Green Spring had 120,000 visitors.
- The gardens received a grant from the Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust to collect witch hazels for its National Witch Hazel Collection in the UK, Netherlands and Belgium. Green Spring manager Chris Strand also authored an article on witch hazels for *American Gardener*, the magazine of the American Horticultural Society.

Hidden Oaks Nature Center

Hidden Oaks Nature Center has lots to celebrate. The center's exhibit area was completely renovated and the new exhibit has been well received by the public. The exhibit, "Urban Woodlands: Habitats and Havens," was unveiled in ribbon cutting ceremonies on October 18, 2003.

The exhibit was designed by Knowtis Design of Alexandria, VA, and the fabrication was completed by Loki Design of Canada. Funding for the project was provided in the 1998 bond referendum. The exhibit is an important extension of the work that staff and volunteers undertake in educating visitors about the importance of our natural habitat.

- Kathryn Rheuark, Hidden Oaks Nature Center volunteer, donated a hard-rock maple play structure valued at nearly \$4,000 for child's play to enjoy indoors.
- The Friends of Hidden Oaks Nature Center was formed to act as a community advocate for the center and its activities. The group is working on supporting the center's mission through signs, representation and other community ideas for the future.
- Hidden Oaks continues to support the Bailey's Family Shelter with monthly natural history programs for the children there. These programs have been enthusiastically received.

Hidden Pond

- Construction began on a half-mile trail and bridge project crossing the Pohick Creek and linking Hidden Pond Park and Nature Center with the Orange Hunt community.



Hidden Oaks Nature Center, nestled in the Annandale, is a wonderful place for nature-related adventure. This intrepid wanderer enjoys the recently opened exhibit, "Urban Woodlands: Habitats and Havens" which focuses on the homes of the critters who live in the woods. This is a popular place to spend a weekend afternoon with the family.



Hidden Pond Nature Center celebrated its 25th anniversary and opened a new natural history exhibit. The goal is to help citizens understand their connection to the natural world in their backyards, neighborhoods and places further away such as the Chesapeake Bay. The exhibit, crafted in Canada, was funded by the 1998 Bond.



A short jaunt on the boardwalk at Huntley Meadows Park, located in the heart of Alexandria can provide new perspectives on nature and the need to protect it. These school children are some of the thousands who spent a morning or afternoon learning about the large variety of animals and plants that calls this wetland oasis home.



Join in the celebration of Native American culture at Riverbend Park, located on the Potomac River in Great Falls. Learning about dancing or how indigenous tribes hunted or prepared food is all part of the experience that drew more than 2,000 participants this year, a record turnout for this increasingly popular event.

- Construction began on upgrades to storm water management structures, which will offer greater protection to Hidden Pond and other wetland areas down stream from the effects of high stormwater flow.
- A pilot project, “Nature Nook with a Book,” was initiated to take nature programs to various libraries in the area.
- Hidden Pond celebrated its 25th anniversary and also dedicated its new natural history exhibit. The bond-funded exhibit focuses on the natural history of Fairfax County and helps citizens understand their connections to the natural world in their backyard, their neighborhood and places further away such as the Chesapeake Bay.

Huntley Meadows Park

- Staff served on the steering committee for the development of the Little Hunting Creek Watershed Plan, the first of its kind restoration initiative for a major watershed in Fairfax County. This new approach will help steer the way for watershed improvement in other areas of Fairfax County.
- The annual Wetlands Awareness Day event in May attracted over 850 visitors in celebration of the beauty and importance of wetlands in Fairfax County.
- Huntley Meadows Park entered into a partnership with The Friends of Historic Huntley, Friends of Huntley Meadows Park, Citizens Alliance to Save Huntley, Virginia Department of Forestry and the County’s Urban Forestry Division to raise \$7,500 to protect three 160-year-old oak trees that have historical significance related to the family of George Mason IV. The trees are presumed to delineate the boundary of property that belonged to Thompson Mason, grandson of George Mason IV.

Riverbend

- The 5th Annual Indians of Virginia Festival on September 6, had its largest attendance ever, with 2,000 people attending. Representatives from three of Virginia’s indigenous tribes were present: Mattaponi, Rappahannock and Pamunkey tribes. This event was co-sponsored by the FCPA, Friends of Riverbend and the Jamestown 400 Group.
- The Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network approved Riverbend Park’s nomination to become a Chesapeake Bay Gateway Site. Riverbend is the second Park Authority site to achieve this designation. The designation makes Riverbend a part of a federally-recognized system of parks considered significant to the Chesapeake Bay Watershed and promotes the site as a premier destination within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed.



A day along the shores of the Potomac River can be restorative and calming. Riverbend Park will utilize federal grant dollars to install an interpretive trail along the river as part of a collaborative effort with Great Falls Park. Riverbend was designated as a participant in the Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network.

- The Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network awarded Riverbend Park \$20,000 of federal grant money to install an interpretive trail along the Potomac River as part of a collaborative project with Great Falls Park.
- Riverbend Park created and/or expanded several partnerships to meet its many program and resource management issues. A partnership was created with The Potomac Conservancy and The Potomac Appalachian Trail Club to assist in maintaining the heavily used Potomac Heritage Trail and to manage alien invasive plants throughout the park. Over 300 volunteer hours from these organizations have resulted in clearing many fallen trees, installing log barriers and graveling and woodchipping of the trails after severe damage from storms.
- A partnership between Riverbend and the National Park Service's Great Falls Park has begun to address many river safety issues that both parks face. Coordination between these two sites has resulted in Riverbend becoming part of a joint River Safety Task Force, designed to coordinate rescue operations and identify safety issues. These efforts will hopefully prevent future accidents and save lives.
- Riverbend Park is partnering with schools to offer science workshops for teachers to allow science classes from Thomas Jefferson and McLean High Schools to participate in resource management projects as part of their classroom learning.

Sully Historic Site



Father's Day and antique cars seem to be a natural combination for fun and fantasy at Sully Historic Site. More than 4,500 enthusiasts attended this past year to enjoy over 450 classic cars, a variety of musical performances and tours of the historic property.

- Sully's summer three-day History Camps were very popular. Highlights included story reading, historic games and slave life interpretation. Children dressed in reproduction period clothing, learned about children of the Lees, as well as the daily lives of enslaved children.
- Two summer programs were held to highlight the slave quarter. "Chinking at the Quarter" involved the public helping the agency's restoration carpenter re-chink the logs that have separated in the last two years. "Weave the Waddling Fence" featured repairs to the woven fence that protects the slave quarter garden.
- Candlelight Tours and Holiday Concerts in December were completely sold out.
- New programs in fiscal year 2003 included: Banjos, Bones and Tales; Researching your African American Ancestors, Sully's Easter Egg Hunt; Foraging into Summer: From Beans to Greens; Game Birds, Hunting and Trapping; and a Rug Hooking Show.
- The Car Show drew 4,500 paid visitors.
- Work began on a Cultural Landscape Report for Sully. Funding has been approved from the state through a Virginia Department of Historic Resources Grant supporting a consultant for landscape analysis. Rhodeside-Harwell, an Alexandria firm, will produce a report that will trace Sully's landscape changes from the earliest Lee period through alterations made into the 21st century.

- The Sully Foundation, Ltd. is funding a project to purchase appropriate historic kitchenware. Acquisitions include a tin kitchen (a reproduction reflector oven), wooden wash tubs and a variety of slip-decorated earthenware and stoneware.
- Repairs to the plaster walls and wainscoting on the first and second floors of the house were completed. In the process, an original layer of false graining dating to the Lee time period was uncovered on the wainscoting in the hall.
- Eagle Scout projects have resulted in new picnic tables and special event benches were made, refurbished brick borders around the vegetable garden and resurfaced flower garden paths. Americorps volunteers repaired badly damaged gates and constructed new cabinets.
- Volunteer Dotty O'Rourke and the Sully Stitchers received the Resource Management Division's Volunteer Excellence Award in September 2003 and a special Park Authority Board resolution for their outstanding volunteer service.
- Historian Robert Watson from Colonial Williamsburg at Carter's Grove came to Sully to do a voice-over for an educational film on slave life at Sully. The video chronicles the construction of the slave quarter and the operation of slave life educational programming. This project, funded by a grant from the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, is now complete.
- Sully was reaccredited by the American Association of Museums.
- "Civil War Life," an encampment lasting two days, attracted 500 visitors. The program included living history demonstrations, banjo music, Civil War music, battles/skirmishes, a medical tent, a signal corps demonstration, sutlers selling reproduction items and an appearance by Robert E. Lee, portrayed by a local actor who came to see the troops.
- New and expanded fall programs included a cooking workshop sponsored by the Fairfax County Adult Education Department, as well as a separate cooking program on preserving summer produce such as catsups, fruit preserves and potted meats.
- The Sully Quilt Show attracted 3000 visitors.

Historic Properties

From the rustic life at Dranesville Tavern to the life of the privileged class at Stone Mansion, the historic properties under the stewardship of the Resource Management Division offer a unique representation of early life in Fairfax County. Several of these historic properties are available for special events. These properties include Cabell's Mill in Chantilly, Clark House in Falls Church, Dranesville Tavern in Dranesville, Great Falls Grange in Great Falls, Hunter House in Vienna, the Old School House in Great Falls, Stone Mansion in Alexandria and Wakefield Chapel in Annandale. There were 684 rentals during the fiscal year and the properties are appropriate for corporate events as well as weddings and other social affairs.



What was life really like for the families who lived at Sully? What did they do for fun and recreation? This young lady tries her hand at barrel hoop rolling, a popular pastime in the 18th and 19th centuries. Sully has special tours and historical programming that take place throughout the year.



The Sully Quilt Show featured one of the area's best collections of quilts and drew 3,000 visitors. The Sully Stitchers, an all-volunteer organization, was recognized this year for outstanding contributions to the Park Authority's Resource Management Division.

Some highlights from the fiscal year include:

- The exhibit, “Bailey’s Crossroads and the Bailey Family,” opened at Clark House.
- The opening for the exhibit “Munson’s Hill and the Munson Family,” held at Clark House, was attended by 82 people including U.S. Representative Tom Davis, Chairman Katherine K. Hanley, Supervisor Penelope A. Gross and Park Authority Board Member Frank S. Vajda.
- Dranesville Tavern underwent an ADA retrofit to allow for patrons that are chair bound to use the site. The office area was converted into two ADA restrooms, a ramp was added onto the front of the building and the entry from the parking area was re-graded.

Collections Management

- The Park Authority Collections Management Symposium, “A Very Good Likeness: Portraits in Early America 1750-1860,” was attended by 130 museum professionals from as far away as New York State.
- The exhibit “Postcards from Virginia,” coordinated by Assistant Collections Manager Susan Clark, was a main feature of the annual Sully Quilt Show in September.
- A three-year Environmental Monitoring Project was initiated. Dataloggers will record and chart environmental changes affecting Historic Collections exhibited at sites and in the collections storage area.
- Woodrow Wilson Library hosted a satellite exhibit on the Bailey Family of Bailey’s Crossroads.
- Twenty-two pieces from the Richard and Carlotta Gonzales Lahey Collection received conservation treatment.
- Collections Manager Jeanne Niccolls was a guest lecturer for the NVCC class in Museum Practices.

Resource Management Division Volunteer & Interpretive Services

The Resource Management Division has 800 active and committed volunteers. These individuals contributed 55,723 hours during FY 2003.

Honoring Volunteer Excellence

The Resource Management Division’s 2003 Volunteer Excellence Award was presented to outstanding volunteers C.K. Gailey and Ann and Emily Vorek. Also recognized were the division’s three, 20 plus year volunteers and 17, ten plus volunteers for their dedication to the Fairfax County Park Authority. Since the inauguration of this program in 2001, 13 individuals have been recognized for 20-plus years of commitment to the community and 100 individuals have been recognized for ten or more years of dedicated public service.



Historic properties such as the Hunter House at Nottoway Park in Vienna, are great places for weddings and other family celebrations such as reunions. Our historic properties, which are located throughout Fairfax County, are diverse and affordable. We can provide an old school house or a tavern, a mill or a chapel, all depending on the need and budget.



Dozens of members of the Munson Family joined in the festivities at the opening of a new exhibit at Clark House, located in Falls Church. The exhibit chronicles the life and times of this robust local family that have been an important part of the Fairfax County community through the Civil War and prosperous times as well.



The Resource Management Division volunteer appreciation efforts included a bit of dancing. The Park Authority depends on volunteers to fill the gap between the agency's ability to staff sites and the public's desire for service. There are countless ways to serve as a volunteer, which is a great means for giving something back to the community as well as having fun.



Volunteers are a diverse group and opportunities abound for individuals of all ethnic and cultural persuasions. During the past fiscal year, Resource Management Division volunteers were active in the support of expanding partnerships, helped open new exhibits and even assisted when weather conditions were difficult.

During National Volunteer Week, April 27-May 3, 2003, RMD volunteers were feted with cards, site recognition activities and a salute to the Resource Management Division's volunteers at Riverbend Park. Sixty volunteers attended the unique festivities, which included a campfire, cookout and a night hike.

Expanding Community Partnerships

Partnering with local citizens and businesses, the Resource Management Division organized three successful events to raise funds for the division's Volunteer Program. These events, which included a flea market and two "Restaurant Nights" at the Chevy's located in Merrifield, raised more than \$3,000 to support volunteer recognition and training activities.

Resource Management Division program coordinators met with the Elementary Science and Social Studies Curriculum Coordinators to keep abreast of the Fairfax County Program of Studies and the Virginia Standards of Learning. This annual meeting with Fairfax County Public School representatives ensures that educational programs offered at the parks meet the needs of both the county's students and teachers.

In collaboration with Fairfax County Public Schools, Resource Management Division staff offered three science workshops for lead science teachers at Green Spring Gardens, Riverbend Park and Colvin Run Mill Historic Site. During these sessions teachers explored park resources, probed specific science concepts and experienced hands-on environmental education techniques.

During FY 2003, several teams from Americorps, a national service program for young adults 18-24 years old, donated 1,955 hours and completed significant long-term natural and cultural resource management projects at Colvin Run Mill Historic Site, Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, Frying Pan Park, Hidden Oaks Nature Center, Huntley Meadows Park and Sully Historic Site. Teams completed key projects such as clearing and resurfacing trails, repairing a parking lot, restoring meadow habitat, repairing, rebuilding and painting fences, restoring gardens by removing vegetation, planting new material and mulching.

Recognizing the Commitment of our Staff

Charles Smith, Historian II at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, received the Park Authority's 2003 Interpretive Excellence Award for developing a series of outdoor interpretive exhibits that increase public appreciation of the site's past and understanding of existing historic and natural features.

Erin Chernisky, Volunteer Services Coordinator for the Resource Management Division, received a 2003 Stewardship Award for her outstanding work coordinating and administering several division-wide Americorps grants that resulted in nearly 4,000 volunteer hours in 2002.



AmeriCorps workers, part of the national service program, continue to improve Park sites. The Park Authority benefited from 1,955 hours of service during the past fiscal year. Teams completed key projects such as clearing and resurfacing trails, restoring meadow habitat, repairing fences and restoring garden areas.



Earth Sangha volunteers tend to the garden. This organization has gone beyond the ordinary Adopt-A-Park agreement with activities besides routine maintenance. These include a botanical survey, control of invasive alien vegetation and other measures to conserve and restore native cover.



Children gather pond side to explore what lives in Hidden Pond. Without volunteers, who outnumber Resource Management employees five to one, the Park Authority would not achieve the many successes and innovations that make it a Gold Medal Award winning community.

Nurturing Professional Growth

The division sponsored a Volunteer Orientation in March to help 31 new volunteers learn about the Park Authority, Resource Management Division and their critical role as volunteers.

To expand professional development, the Resource Management Division offered three half-day training sessions for staff covering writing labels, exhibit design and thematic development. The theme development session was offered in collaboration with the National Park Service.

Mona Enquist-Johnston, Manager of Volunteer and Interpretive Services for the division, received professional certification from the National Association for Interpretation (NAI). She is now a Certified Interpretive Trainer, approved to lead training for the NAI's Certified Interpretive Guide curriculum.

Reaching Out to the Community

In April, Resource Management Division staff representing the Park Authority presented hands-on nature activities at the county's Earth-Day-Arbor Day Festival at the Annandale Campus of the Northern Virginia Community College.

Connecting with Other Professionals

The 2002 National Interpreters Workshop was held in Virginia from November 12-16. Staff member Mona Enquist-Johnston served on the workshop planning committee as the Co-Chair for Special Events. Workshop attendees included 1,200 natural and cultural history interpreters from across the country. In recognition of her accomplishments on this planning committee, Mona received a Meritorious Service Award from National Association for Interpretation's Region 2.

Cultural Resource Highlights

A National Register nomination for Great Falls Grange and the School House was submitted to the Virginia Department of Historic Resources. The nomination will be on their March 2004 calendar. Historic Property Rental Services and the Cultural Resource Protection Section coordinated this effort. The nomination was prepared by C.K. Gailey, under the direction of Karen Lindquist, Gail Taylor Norton and Liz Crowell.

An Archaeological Study was completed for Huntley Historic Site by Louis Berger and Associates to assist in the understanding and interpretation of the construction history of Huntley. Additional archaeological investigations were conducted in the northern addition at Huntley by Cultural Resource Protection Section archaeologists Richard Sacchi, John Rutherford and Liz Crowell, assisted by volunteers John Lintner and Janice Grogan.

A Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) was completed for Historic Huntley. The report was done by John Milner Associates out of Charlottesville, Virginia. This report will assist in the preservation and interpretation of the cultural resources at Huntley.

Archaeological fieldwork was completed at Unions Mills, a National Register property, on the Civil War “A fort and Battery Hill Redoubt. The project was conducted by Parsons. The report will culminate in an archaeological report that will assist in the understanding and interpretation of this important Civil War site.

Resource Management Division Donations – Fiscal Year 2003

A place to sit and watch the Potomac at Riverbend. Free catering for a special event. Providing *all* the feed and veterinary care for the animals at Frying Pan. Or a grand financial donation on the part of an involved and caring Friends group.

During the past year, the Resource Management Division received cash, in-kind goods and in-kind services valued at \$290,000. These donations are in addition to the thousands of volunteers hours, valued in the millions, that the division receives. There is so much that wouldn't be accomplished without these varying levels of contributions by the community.

It's impossible to acknowledge everyone that has given to the Resource Management Division, but in particular, we want to thank and recognize our strongest supporters, the Friends groups. The Friends groups provide a wellspring of financial and hands-on support, along with actively encouraging private/public partnership and stewardship. They are indeed the heart and muscle of our public support.

The Park Authority gratefully acknowledges the contributions of:

*Founders, Benefactors, Supervisors and Friends of Frying Pan Park
Friends of Colvin Run
Friends of Green Spring
Friends of Hidden Oaks Nature Center
Friends of Historic Huntley
Friends of Huntley Meadows
Friends of Riverbend
Sully Foundation*

Park Operations

The Park Operations Division's mission is to operate, manage, protect and maintain parks and park facilities, structures, equipment, support systems and infrastructure. The division also works closely with residents, community groups, the private sector and other agencies in meeting public needs and supporting other Park Authority divisions in the fulfillment of their mission.

Grounds Management Branch:

- Area Management is responsible for the maintenance and management of the Park Authority's non-staffed park facilities, as well as the grounds maintenance of most staffed parks. These include athletic fields, tennis courts, trails, stream valleys, natural areas, playgrounds and other facilities.
- Landscape and Forestry operates county-wide and is responsible for the care and protection of trees on parkland, the removal of hazardous trees and elimination of hazardous tree conditions and stream blockages, provides landscaping at Park Authority RECenters and other forestry-related work. In addition to these duties, Forestry monitors champion trees that are on parkland. Champion Trees are the largest known trees of their species and are identified in a County, state or national registry.
- The Mobile Crew operates county-wide and provides support to other maintenance operations where heavy equipment and hauling are needed. The crew renovates parking lots, roads, trails, multi-use courts and stream crossings. The crew also performs small-scale ground level construction.
- Turf Management provides technical support on the development and maintenance of turf areas. Along with this technical support for athletic field groups and Park Authority staff, Turf Management provides hands-on management and repair of athletic field turf.

Facility and Equipment Support Branch:

- Facility Support is responsible for the maintenance of all Park Authority buildings, structures and their support systems. This includes the bath houses and shelters at athletic fields and playgrounds; carousels and trains within a park and the construction of signs that identify parkland and relay information to visitors. In addition to the normal maintenance of facilities, there is also a Restoration crew that performs renovations and repairs at the historic sites within the Park Authority.
- Equipment Support provides repair and maintenance of the Park Authority's motorized equipment.

Park Operations has been heavily involved in various county programs. As in previous years, the Park Authority takes a lead role in the area of athletic field maintenance. Park Operations' staff developed a comprehensive Athletic Field Maintenance Manual to assist athletic field groups (Adopt-A-Field) in conditioning and maintaining fields that they have adopted. In addition to the Adopt-A-Field groups utilizing this manual, other jurisdictions have purchased the manual to further enhance their own operations. An initiative to improve the management of park trails was also started this year. Park Operations staff, with assistance from other divisions within the Park Authority, produced the *Guide to Trail Management* to inform citizens, user groups and other jurisdictions on the maintenance and management of park trails. This information is combined with workshops and seminars throughout the year to enhance the volunteer projects and networking within the parks and recreation community. Along with other agencies within the County, Park Operations is a member of the Air Quality Subcommittee, which has developed air quality initiatives to be implemented for the 2004 Code Red Season. Park Operations is a member of the county-wide work group to upgrade the two-way radio system, which addresses the radio infrastructure for both the public safety and public service systems. In addition, Park Operations serves on the Emergency Task Force Committee. This committee meets to coordinate county-wide agency efforts during an emergency.

Athletic Field Maintenance Manual

Park Operations athletic field staff developed a manual to assist both professionals and volunteers on the proper techniques for maintaining and protecting all types of athletic field surfaces.

Guide to Trail Management

Park Operations staff, in conjunction with Planning and Development and Resource Management staff, developed the *Guide to Trail Management*. This manual is designed to provide insight to the community and guidance to the park staff on how trails are planned, developed, managed and maintained on Fairfax County parkland. The *Guide to Trail Management* can be viewed online at: <http://www.co.fairfax.va.us/parks/trailmgmt.htm>

Turf Management Outreach

In the Fall of 2002, Park Authority Turfgrass Specialist Bob Studholme was elected President of the Virginia Sports Turf Managers Association (VSTMA). Dan Sutherland, Area 5 Manager, also serves on the Board as the Category IV (Parks and Recreation) Director. VSTMA is the state chapter of the National Sports Turf Managers Association. The Association's mission is to promote awareness of the need for safe, durable and aesthetically pleasing sports activity fields. Studholme is also on the Program and Education Committee of the Virginia Turfgrass Council and serves on the Virginia Turfgrass Foundation Board of Directors.

VRPS Athletic Field Workshop

The Park Authority hosted the Virginia Recreation and Parks Society summer athletic field workshop on August 8, 2003, at Nottoway Park. Park Operations staff provided lectures and demonstrations on the Park authority's proven athletic field maintenance techniques.

Park Watch Program

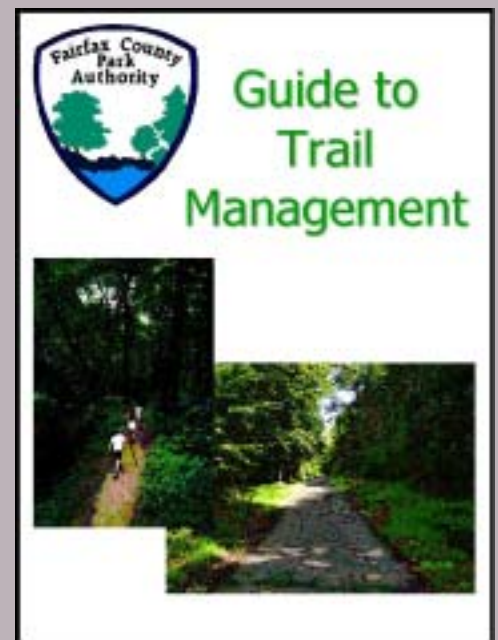
The Park Watch Program began as a means for residents to play an active role in the monitoring of park activities, as well as in the protection and safety of park facilities. The program is sponsored by the Fairfax County Police Department and park staff work closely with the police to ensure the success of the program.

Renovations & Reconstruction

Hidden Oaks Nature Center and Hidden Pond Nature Center were renovated in FY 2003 in a joint effort with Resource Management staff. Funds for new exhibits were identified through the Capital Improvement Program to replace exhibits dating back to the early 1980's. The exhibits were constructed through a competitive bid and awarded to firms in Canada. Facilities Maintenance staff and Resource Management staff



Park Operations developed the Athletic Field Maintenance Manual in order to assist both professionals and novices in proper field maintenance techniques. Fairfax County Park Authority staff is considered among the elite when it comes to the management of athletic fields.



It may sound easy, but trail maintenance has its special nuances. Now volunteers, community organizations and trail enthusiasts will have a greater understanding about how trails are planned, developed and managed in Fairfax County.

cooperated in the preparation of the building renovations prior to the installation of the new exhibits. Old exhibits were removed from the buildings and electrical and plumbing services were retro-fitted to accept the new exhibits. Both sites were also modified with new entry doors for accessibility and to allow more natural light into the spaces. Once the exhibits were installed, carpet was replaced as the final project upgrade.

Outdoor Park Renovations

FY 2003 saw severe and unseasonable inclement weather that caused delays in the renovation projects planned for this fiscal year. Listed below are completed projects.

Tennis Courts:

Cooper Middle School, Hooes Road, Wakefield, George Washington RECenter, Navy Vale and Royal Lake

Multi Use Courts:

Alabama Drive, McLean Central, Kings Park, Dowden Terrace, Lincolnia, Azalea, Kendale Woods, Fitzhugh, Roundtree, Luria, Greenbriar, Bucknell Manor, Nottoway, J.E.B. Stuart, Groveton Heights, Tyler, Waverly, Bruin, Ridgeview, Lee District and Brookfield

Trails:

Dunn Loring, Lake Accotink, Chapel Acres, EC Lawrence and Frying Pan

Park Operations Highlights

- Rebuilt the waterwheel/axle shaft at Colvin Run Mill historic site
- Replaced front portico columns at Stoneybrooke and Ashgrove
- Replacement of wood flooring in the barn at Colvin Run Mill; completed erosion control work at Fort Willard Park and Great Falls Grange
- Renovated the concession building at Audrey Moore and converted spaces for summer camp use
- Installed roof gutters and painted the natatorium at George Washington RECenter. Completed roof repairs at Providence RECenter. Staff responded to Providence RECenter to deal with flooding in the building during the February blizzard. They cleared gutters and downspouts of ice and debris. Additional storm-related problems were addressed at Nottoway where a storage shed began to collapse, and at the Packard Center where staff cleared clogged gutters and drains.
- Repaired drainage at Frying Pan and Royal Lake Parks. Re-graded parking lot at Frying Pan Park.
- Renovated trails at Woodley Hills Park, E.C. Lawrence, Royal Lake, Silas Burke and Little Hunting Creek Stream Valley. Trail and bridge repairs were constructed at Rutherford Park and beaver baffles were installed in the Rocky Run Stream Valley. A new paved trail and bridge opened across Pohick Creek, linking the Orange Hunt area with Hidden Pond Park and Nature Center.
- Installed new playgrounds at Towers and Peterson Lane parks.
- Demolished the old maintenance shop at Lake Fairfax to enable retrofitting for picnic area and parking areas, which will be used for day camps.
- Renovated the campground and parking areas at Burke Lake Park
- Prepared interim athletic fields at Laurel Hill and completed interior building renovations for the new exhibit at Hidden Pond Nature Center. Four new ball diamonds opened for play at Clermont Park.
- Two Park Authority golf course clubhouses received needed repairs and improvements. At Burke Lake a new shingled roof was put on the clubhouse and were retiled and repainted the clubhouse restrooms. Work

began on the restoration of the clubhouse restrooms and the camp store at Burke Lake Park. Work continued on the expansion of the interior deck at Jefferson Golf Course clubhouse. Siding was replaced at the Jefferson clubhouse.

- Renovated and expanded classrooms at the Walney Visitor Center in Ellanor C. Lawrence Park. Pre-construction reviews continue for the new live animal exhibit at the Visitor Center.

Adopt-a-Field Volunteer Program

For 50 years, the maintenance of athletic fields has been funded from general fund tax dollars. Most fields are in non-staffed parks and maintenance crews travel from site to site to maintain the fields at the standard demanded by the public. The Adopt-A-Field volunteer program was created in 1990 as a cooperative venture with interested athletic organizations, groups or individuals whereby they assume many of the maintenance responsibilities. Currently, of the agency's 277 athletic fields, 132 have been adopted. These adoptions provide maintenance of fields during a time when resources and staff are limited and they represent the best kind of private-public partnership.



The Park Operations Division expanded the interior deck at Jefferson Clubhouse. This was one of dozens of improvement projects undertaken by staff. Park Operations provides affordable and much needed repair work and helps the Park Authority maintain facilities.

Park

Americana Park
Baron Cameron Park
Baron Cameron Park
Beulah Park
Beulah Park
Braddock Park
Braddock Park
Braddock Park
Byron Avenue Park
Byron Avenue Park
Chandon Park
Clarks's Crossing
Clermont Park
Clermont Park
E. C. Lawrence Park
Eakin Community Park
Fox Mill District Park
Fox Mill District Park
Franconia Park
Geo. Washington RECenter
Government Center
Grand Hamptons Park
Great Falls Nike Park
Great Falls Nike Park

Organization

Annandale North Springfield Little League
Great Falls Athletic Association
Reston Herndon Adult Softball Council
Pioneer Baseball and Softball
Fairfax County Adult Softball
Fairfax County Adult Softball
Southwestern Youth Association
Centreville High School
West Springfield Little League
Springfield Youth Club
Northern Virginia Travel Baseball League
Vienna Youth Soccer
Pioneer Baseball and Softball
Gunston Soccer Club
Southwestern Youth Association
Fairfax County Adult Softball
Reston Youth
Chantilly Soccer Club
Central Springfield Little League
Gunston Soccer Club
Southwestern Youth Association
Great Falls Athletic Association
Great Falls Athletic Association
Great Falls Little League

Field

Little league field
Three soccer fields
Softball field
Two baseball fields
Two softball fields
Six softball fields
Soccer field
Two softball fields
Four baseball fields
Two football fields
One softball field
Two soccer fields
Baseball field
Soccer field
Four soccer fields
Two softball fields
Two baseball fields
Soccer field
Little league field
Two soccer fields
Baseball field
Soccer field
Soccer field
Two baseball fields

Greenbriar Park
 Grist Mill Park
 Hollin Hall Park
 Hooes Road Park
 Howery Field
 Hutchinson School Site
 Idylwood Park
 Lake Braddock S.S.
 Lake Fairfax Park
 Lakeside Park
 Langley Forks Park
 Lee District Park
 Lewinsville Center
 Lewinsville Park
 Lewinsville Park
 Linway Terrace Park
 Linway Terrace Park
 Lockmeade Park
 Lower Potomac
 Manchester Lake
 Mason District Park
 McLean Gov't. Center
 Muddy Hole Park
 Nottoway Park
 Nottoway Park
 Oak Marr Park
 Olney Park
 Ossian Hall Park
 Pine Ridge
 Pine Ridge
 Popes Head Park
 Popes Head Park
 Poplar Tree Park
 Reston North Park
 Rolling Valley West
 Rutherford Park
 South Lakes Drive Park
 South Run District Park
 Spring Hill Park
 Spring Hill Park
 Trailside Park
 Virginia Hills School Site
 Virginia Hills School Site
 Wakefield Park
 Westgate Park
 Wilton Woods School Site
 Wolf Trails Park

Chantilly Youth Association
 Gunston Soccer Club
 Fort Hunt Youth Athletic Association
 Springfield Youth Club
 Annandale North Springfield Little League
 Herndon Youth Soccer
 Vienna Youth Soccer
 Braddock Road Lacrosse Ltd
 Reston Herndon Adult Softball Council
 Kings Park West Soccer League
 McLean Youth Soccer
 Pioneer Baseball and Softball
 McLean Youth Soccer
 McLean Youth Soccer
 McLean Youth, Inc
 McLean Youth Soccer
 McLean Little League
 Great Falls Athletic Association
 Lorton Little League
 Lee Mt. Vernon Soccer Assoc.
 Fairfax County Adult Softball
 McLean Youth Soccer
 Gunston Soccer Club
 Fairfax County Adult Softball
 Vienna Little League
 Vienna Little League
 McLean Little League
 Fairfax County Adult Softball
 Annandale North Springfield LL
 Fairfax Women's Soccer Association
 Southwestern Youth Association
 Southwestern Youth Association
 Chantilly Youth Association
 Reston Youth Baseball
 Fairfax County Adult Softball
 Fairfax County Adult Softball
 Reston Youth Baseball
 Fairfax County Adult Softball
 McLean Youth Soccer
 McLean Little League
 Central Springfield Little League
 Pioneer Baseball and Softball
 Lee/Mt. Vernon Soccer Association
 Fairfax County Adult Softball
 Falls Church Kiwanis Little League
 Pioneer Baseball and Softball
 Vienna Youth Soccer, Inc.

Baseball field
 Two soccer fields
 Two baseball fields
 Three soccer fields
 Three little league
 Six soccer fields
 Soccer field
 Soccer field
 Two softball fields
 Soccer field
 Two soccer fields
 Five baseball fields
 Soccer field
 Two soccer fields
 Football field
 Soccer field
 Little league field
 Soccer field
 Three little league
 Two soccer fields
 Softball field
 Soccer field
 Soccer field
 Two softball fields
 Two little league
 Soccer field
 Little league field
 Two Softball fields
 Three little league
 Three soccer fields
 Soccer field
 Three soccer fields
 Baseball field
 Baseball field
 Softball field
 Softball field
 Softball field
 Two soccer fields
 Little league field
 Four little league
 Baseball field
 Soccer field
 Three softball fields
 Two Little League
 Two softball fields
 Soccer field

Communities work closely with the Park Authority to maintain and improve playgrounds throughout the community. The smile of a child's face ultimately tells us if we have been successful.



Adopt-a-Park Volunteer Program

Also created in 1990, the Adopt-a-Park volunteer program complements the work of staff in maintaining designated park areas including trails, flower beds, playgrounds and historical areas.

Park

Annandale Community Park
Azalea Park
Burke Lake Park
Cub Run Stream Valley
Eakin Park
Fairfax Station East Park
Folkstone Park
Gabrielson Gardens Park
Greenway Downs Park
Hayfield Park
Huntsman Lake Park
Lake Accotink Park
Lake Accotink Park
Lamond Park
Lee District Park
McLean Hamlet Park
Muddy Hole Farm Park
Olney Park
Ox Hill Battlefield Park
Pimmit View Park
Pohick Stream Valley
Pohick Stream Valley
Smokewood Park
South Run Stream Valley
South Run Stream Valley
Sugarland Run Stream Valley
Washington Mill Park
Wayland Street Park
Wilburdale Park
Williamsburg Manor Park
Wolftrap Stream Valley

Person or Organization

Paul Gilbert, Northern Virginia Conservation Trust
Tom Kay, Greater Hillwood Citizens Association
Robin C. McClary, Citizens For The Preservation of Wildlife, Inc.
Glenn E. Moore, Tom and Judy Hutchins
Bill Stephens
Robert Calogero
R. Ray, Folkstone HOA
William Nenninger, Hunter Valley HOA
Joan W. Rodriguez, Greenway Downs Citizens Association
Mike Millikin, Hayfield Garden Club
Robin C. McClary, Citizens For The Preservation of Wildlife, Inc.
William D. Foster, Robert Golden
Robert Golden
Stephen Markle, Villamay Community Association
William C. Resler and Dennis Roak
Fairfax Releaf, Inc.
Kevin Wirth and Steven Weigel
The Baha'is of McLean
Ancient Order of Hibernians (Father William Corby Division)
Carol D. Shuh
Whitler's Creek Homeowners Association
Wooded Glen Section I HOA Ramey's Meadow Francis Rath
Frances T. Chandler
Neil McBride, Newington Forest Community Association, In
Hezekiah M. Richardson
Donna Frederick, Manager of Girl Scout Troop 51-5
Margaret Huggin -Washington Mill School
L. Stan Severance
Earth Sangha, Chris Bright
Andy Kaplan, Mowhawk Indian Guide
Victor F. Sto



The Adopt-A-Field program makes it possible for children to enjoy top-notch fields. The many organizations that participate generously support the Park Authority field maintenance efforts.



The Park Authority depends on the contributions of Friends groups, volunteers and in many cases Adopt-A-Park agreements to keep parks and historic sites in good repair.

Multiple Districts

Backlick Stream Valley
Accotink Stream Valley
Difficult Run Stream Valley

Braddock District

Americana
Ashford East
Canterbury Woods
Country Club View
Crooked Creek
Fairfax Hills
Fairfax Villa
Fitzhugh
Flag Run
George Mason
Greenfield
Herzell Woods
Howery Field
Kings Park
Kings Park West
Lake Accotink
Lake Braddock School Site
Lakeside
Leewood
Long Branch Falls
Long Branch Stream Valley
Middleridge
Monticello
North Springfield
Oak Hill
Olde Forge
Ossian Hall
Red Fox Forest
Rolling Woods Estate
Royal Lake
Rutherford
Smokewood
Surrey Square
The Wakefield Chapel
Twinbrooke Road
University
Wakefield
Wakefield Chapel
Willow Woods
Woodglen Lake

Dranesville District

Alabama Drive
Bruin (Town of Herndon)
Bryn Mawr

Bull Neck Stream Valley
Chandon (Town of Herndon)
Chesterbrook School Site
Churchill Road
Clemyjontri Park
Colvin Run Mill
Colvin Run Stream Valley
Cooper Intermediate
School Site
Dead Run Stream Valley
Dolley Madison Estates
Dranesville Tavern
Falstaff
Fisher
Folly Lick Stream Valley
Franklin Woods
Grand Hamptons
Great Falls Grange
Great Falls Nike
Greenway Heights
Griffith
Haycock-Longfellow
Holly Knoll
Hutchinson School Site
Kent Gardens
Kent Gardens Greenway
Stream Valley
Kirby
Langley Fork
Langley Oaks
Lemon Road
Lewinsville
Lexington Estates
Linway Terrace
Lisle
Little Pimmit Run
Stream Valley
Lockmeade
Marie Butler Leven Preserve
McDannald House
McLean Central
McLean Hamlet
McLean High
McLean Hunt Estates
McLean Knolls
Mt. Royal
Old Dominion School Site
Olney
Pathfinder
Pimmit Hills
Pimmit Run Stream Valley
Pimmit View

Potomac Hills
Riverbend
Scotts Run Nature Preserve
Scotts Run Stream Valley
Spring Hill
Spring Hill Int. School Site
Stanton
Stuart Road
Sugarland Run Stream Valley
Timberly
Tollbrook Ridge
Turner Farm
Tysons/Pimmit
Windermere

Hunter Mill

Ash Grove Historic Site
Baron Cameron School Site
Clarks Crossing
Cunningham
Eudora
Floris Community
Floris School Site
Fox Hunters
Fox Mill District
Foxstone
Franklin Oaks
Freedom Hill
Frying Pan Park
Frying Pan Meeting House
Frying Pan Stream Valley
Kemper
Lahey - Lost Valley
Lake Fairfax
Lawyers Road School Site
Little Difficult Run Stream
Valley
Old Courthouse Spring
Branch
Peterson Lane
Raglan Road
Reston North
Reston Town Green
Shaker Woods
South Lakes Drive
Stratton Woods
Symphony Hills
Tamarack
Waverly
Wolf Trails

Wolftrap Stream Valley

Lee District

Amberleigh
Berman Gerber
Beulah
Brookfield
Burgundy
Bush Hill
Byron Avenue
Clermont School Site
Franconia
Franconia Forest
Greendale Golf Course
Groveton Heights
Hayfield
Heritage Hill
Hooes Road
Hooes Road School Site
Huntley Historic Site
Huntley Meadows
Hybla Valley
Island Creek Park
Jefferson Manor
Lee District
Lee High
Lenclair
Loftridge
Loisdale
Lynbrook
Manchester Lakes
Mark Twain
Monticello Woods
Mt. Vernon Woods
Muddy Hole Farm
Pole Road
Ridgeview
South Kings Forest
Springfield Forest
Springvale
Stoneybrooke
Tara Village
Trailside
Wickford
Wilton Woods School Site
Woodlawn

Mason District

Annandale
Backlick
Backlick Run Park
Bailey's

Barcroft Knolls
 Bel Air
 Belvedere
 Bren Mar
 Broyhill
 Broyhill Crest
 Camelot School Site
 Clark House at Barcroft Mews
 Deerlick
 Dowden Terrace
 Edsall
 Glasgow
 Glen Hills
 Green Spring Gardens
 Heywood Glen
 Indian Run Stream Valley
 J.E.B. Stuart
 John C. & Margaret K. White
 Kendale Woods
 Larchmont
 Lillian Carey
 Lincolnia
 Manassas Gap Railroad
 Mason District
 Masonville
 Munson Hill
 Parklawn
 Pine Ridge
 Pinecrest Golf Course
 Poe Terrace
 Rose Lane
 Roundtree
 Skyline
 Sleepy Hollow
 Spring Lane
 Summers Cemetery
 Turkeycock Run Stream valley
 Valley Crest
 Virginia Hills School Site
 Westlawn School Site
 Wilburdale
 Wilburdale
 Winterset Varsity

Mount Vernon

Belle Haven
 Bucknell Manor
 Carl Sandburg School Site
 Chapel Acres
 Collingwood
 Dogue Creek Stream Valley
 Farrington

Fort Hunt
 Fort Williard Circle
 George Washington
 Grist Mill
 Hollin Hall School Site
 Hollin Meadows
 Huntington
 Kirk
 Lamond
 Laurel Hill
 Levelle W. Dupell
 Little Hunting Creek
 Lorton
 Martin Luther King Jr.
 Mason Neck West
 Mount Air Historic Site
 Mount Eagle
 Mount Vernon District
 Mount Vernon Manor
 Mount Zephyr
 Newington Commons
 Newington Heights
 Paul Springs Stream Valley
 Pohick Estates
 South Run Stream Valley
 Southgate
 S. Foster Intermediate School Site
 Stratford Landing
 Vernon Heights
 Walt Whitman School Site
 Washington Mill
 Westgrove
 White Oaks
 Williamsburg Manor
 Woodley Hills

Providence District

Armistead Park
 Ashlawn
 Azalea
 Blake Lane School Site
 Borge Street
 Briarcliff
 Devonshire
 Dunn Loring
 Eakin (Mantua Section)
 Eakin Community
 East Blake Lane
 Greenway Downs
 Hideaway
 Hollywood Road

Holmes Run Stream Valley
 Idylwood
 James Lee School Site
 Jefferson District
 Jefferson Village
 Lee Landing
 Luria
 Mosby Woods
 Nottoway
 Oak Marr
 Oakborough Square
 Pine Spring
 Providence
 Tattersall
 Towers
 Tyler
 Tysons Woods
 Villa D'este
 Villa Lee
 Woodburn School Site

Springfield District

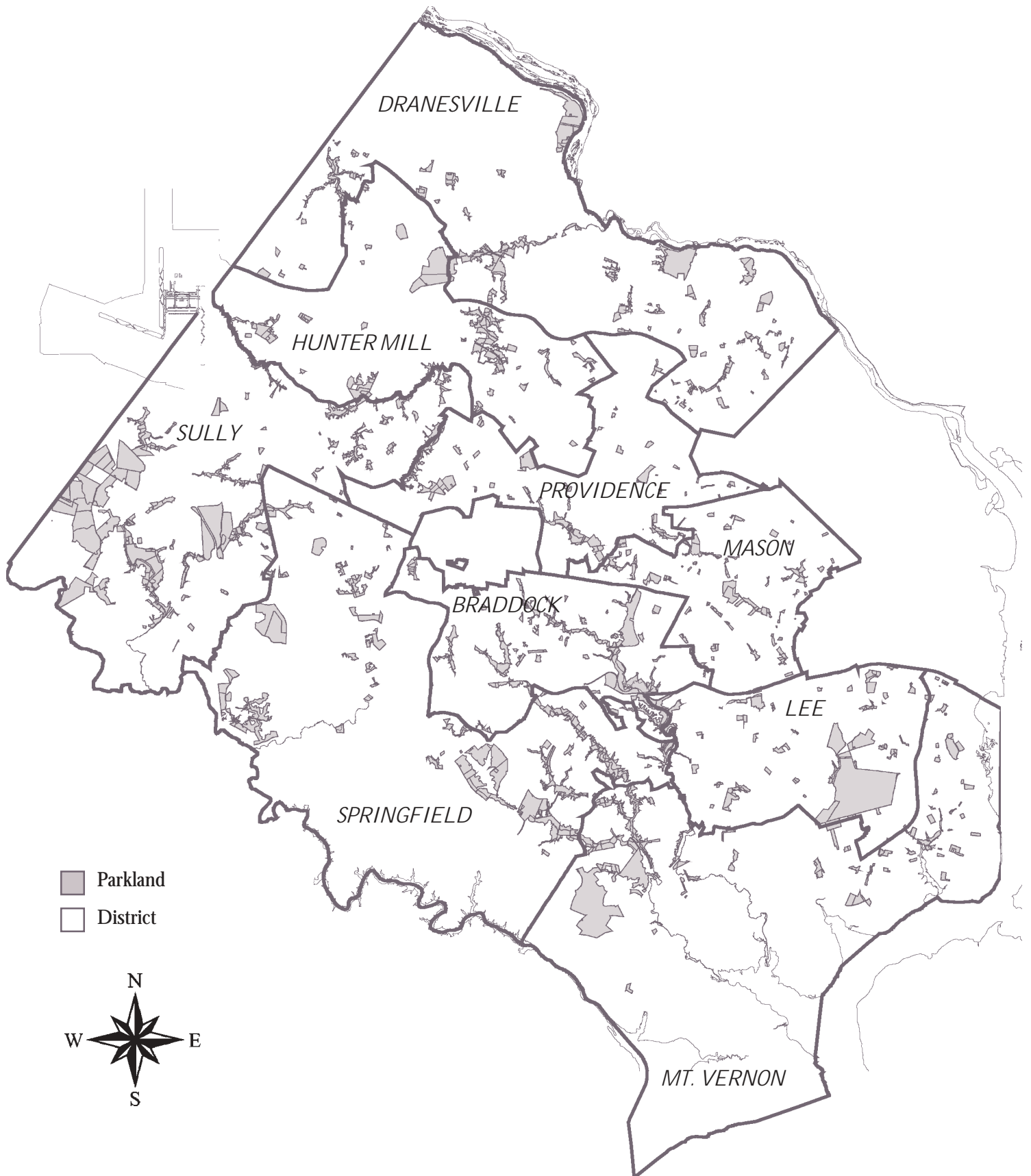
Balmoral Greens
 Braddock
 Brimstone Park
 Burke Lake and Golf Course
 Burke Ridge
 Burke Station
 Cardinal Forest
 Carrleigh Parkway
 Chapel Road
 Cherry Run
 Fairfax Park School Site
 Greentree Village
 Hidden Pond
 Hunter Village
 Huntsman
 Johnny Moore Stream Valley
 Lake Mercer
 Middle Run Stream Valley
 Orange Hunt Estates
 Piney Branch Stream Valley
 Poburn Woods
 Pohick School Site
 Pohick Stream Valley
 Popes Head
 Popes Head Stream Valley
 Rolling Forest
 Rolling Valley West
 Rolling Wood School Site
 Royal Ridge
 Sandy Run Stream Valley

Saratoga
 Shannon Station
 Silas Burke
 Silverbrook
 South Run District
 Twin Lakes Golf Course
 Union Mills Historic Site
 West Springfield
 West Springfield Village

Sully District

Arrowhead
 Brentwood
 Centre Ridge
 Chalet Woods
 Chantilly
 Chantilly Library Site
 Clarke's Landing
 Cub Run
 Cub Run Stream Valley
 Dixie Hill
 Ellanor C. Lawrence
 Fair Oaks
 Fair Ridge
 Fair Woods
 Flatlick Run Stream Valley
 Fox Valley
 Foxvale
 Franklin Farm
 Franklin Glen
 Frog Branch Stream Valley
 Gabrielson Gardens
 Garnchayne
 Greenbriar
 Greenbriar Commons
 Horsepen Run Stream Valley
 Hunter - Haycor
 Lane's Mill
 Navy Vale
 Old Centreville Road
 Ox Hill Battlefield
 Pleasant Hill
 Poplar Tree
 Quinn Farm Park
 Random Hills
 Richard W. Jones
 Rocky Run Stream Valley
 Stone Crossing
 Sully
 Wayland Street
 West Ox Road
 Willow Pond

Map of FCPA Holdings in Fairfax County



Fairfax County Park Authority

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Fairfax County, Virginia 22035-1118
703-324-8700

TTY 703-324-3988

or e-mail parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov

Visit the parks online at

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks

To receive Parktakes Magazine, call 703-222-4664



If accommodations and/or alternative formats are needed in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), please call 703-324-8563, at least ten working days in advance of the registration deadline or event (whichever is earlier.) TTY 703-803-3354.